

THE ATHENÆUM

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No. 3821.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1901.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1901.

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LITERATURE

In the South Seas. By R. L. Stevenson.
(Chatto & Windus.)

HERE the ordinary booklover has at last what the more elaborate Stevensonians may describe as "the ultimate Stevenson," since it does not seem likely, or, indeed, desirable, that the trifling Davos-Platz brochures of which bibliographers have made so much will be reprinted, and other personal memoirs due to Stevenson have been left so long in the dubious glory of limited editions that they are not likely to be popular now. These "Letters" are described in the sub-title as 'An Account of Experiences and Observations in the Marquesas, Paumotu, and Gilbert Islands, in the course of two cruises, on the yacht Casco (1888) and the schooner Equator (1889).' A good deal has happened since these dates, and Stevenson himself has partly suggested why these pages are so sadly belated in their appearance by the tone of his references to them in the 'Vailima Letters.' He was not proud of them, it appears; he wrote and rewrote them without satisfying himself, and he was too much of an artist not to know the danger of elaborate things becoming "ripe and rotten." They appear to have been a task rather than a pleasure in the writing. This being so, it would have been well to add, in view of these complaints, on whose authority the letters are published now. Did their author relent later about this difficult child of his? We know at least that a small edition of part of this book was actually published and seen by Stevenson in 1890, though there is no word of this inserted here. Indeed, the absence of all bibliographical comment is extraordinary. We were hoping for a higher standard in these matters, but the good example of a few publishers seems to have been unheeded by others.

The first part of this volume is on the whole, we think, unsatisfactory reading, though a fair judgment is difficult. The fact is that since Stevenson's success his real

buoyancy and youthful gusto have become a commonplace pose. Essayists have taken the open road in alarming numbers, and taken also, it would seem, the excuse of juvenility of feeling to talk naïvely and lengthily about themselves with the callousness and impertinence of the schoolboy: they have carried the cult of the unusual adjective so far that one is weary of style, and ready to cry, "O sancta simplicitas!" That Stevenson was deliberately imitated is, of course, no fault of his, rather a testimony to his merit; but we think that many have begun to weary of this aping of leading literary personalities, and of the signs that style, as understood by the moderns, is not the man himself, but too often the burlesquing of some other man. We are anxious to be wholly fair and forget these considerations, and our careful verdict on the style of these "Letters," except in the last part, must be, to use Sir Hugh Evans's phrase, "Why, it is affectations." These pages are overloaded with forcible things that are forced, elaborate comparisons that are far-fetched—in fact, with things contrary to the bright speed which should animate the narrative of an observer in a new country. When, however, real adventure is on hand, the writer brightens sensibly; he sees his chance to live romance for once instead of writing it. He is never inclined to "dodge and palter" with peril. He interferes like a boy where he has no evident business to interfere; he dashes in, revolver in hand, to grapple with drunken natives, though he is a little ashamed of his bubbling pleasure on the occasion, and introduces it by a reference to his greater countryman Scott. Altogether, no white can be said to be wholly secure in these islands, and it is certain that the circle of peril which gathers so silently and appears so suddenly round the European needs an adventurous man to appreciate it.

At the beginning of this book Stevenson is not up to his optimistic self. The lights are a little lowered. The Scotch are (even a Scotchman has confessed it) moralists at heart, but even allowing for this, we find the author too apt to gloomy lessoning in the Marquesas. The work of the artist, which should always be a joy in itself, is, it appears, mainly done for the praise of posterity:—

"Fond as it may appear, we labour and refrain, not for the rewards of any single life, but with a timid eye upon the lives and memories of our successors; and where no one is to succeed, of his own family, or his own tongue, I doubt whether Rothschilds would make money or Cato practise virtue."

Out upon such a theory! we say, and so would the author at his best and brightest. It must be the offspring of a passing mood: it is certainly not characteristic of Stevenson.

The civilization of the Old World is a little hardly treated in view of noble savagery. There is an extensive and embarrassing system of giving prevalent in Polynesia. This suggests

"the cognate absurdity of marriage presents. There we give without any special thought of a return; yet if the circumstance arise, and the return be withheld, we shall judge ourselves insulted. We give them usually without affection, and almost never with a genuine desire to please; and our gift is rather a mark of our

own status than the measure of our love to the recipients. So in a great measure and with the common run of the Polynesians: their gifts are formal; they imply no more than social recognition; and they are made and reciprocated, as we pay and return our morning visits."

One almost fancies that this is another voice, that of one who decries the shallowness of our Western civilization with a splendid verbosity which loses nothing by not adhering too strictly to fact.

An instance of the belated effect of this book appears in the explanations about taboo, here throughout spelt *tapu*. Stevenson seems to think that these strange prohibitions, which can plunge a whole native state into strong drink after absolute abstinence, or, more wonderful, bring the drinkers up short at a certain day and hour, will appear mere nonsense to the English mind. But of late years we have seen taboo canonized: it is not a savage rite, but religion; it is recognized as the conscience of the tribal self. Such a case as the following, too, would not be received with wholesale incredulity nowadays. In the Marquesas the cocoa-nut and bread-fruit taboo, a cruel restriction on a chief means of supporting life, works swiftly:—

"Suppose you have eaten *tapu* fruit at the evening meal, at night your sleep will be uneasy; in the morning, swelling and a dark discoloration will have attacked your neck, whence they spread upward to the face; and in two days, unless the cure be interjected, you must die. This cure is prepared from the rubbed leaves of the tree from which the patient stole; so that he cannot be saved without confessing to the Tahuku the person whom he wronged. In the experience of my informant, almost no *tapu* had been put in use, except the two described: he had thus no opportunity to learn the nature and operation of the others; and, as the art of making them was jealously guarded amongst the old men, he believed the mystery would soon die out."

The numerous stories which deal with the Marquesan ideas of spirits are well told, and may be recommended to Mr. Tylor to swell the next edition of his collection of legends concerning animism. Abundant parallels to the rites and observances of other countries could be made. The peculiarity of the Marquesan theory of spirits is that ghosts are held to have a material body, which putrefies like the corpse which it has left.

It is rather amusing to find Stevenson talking of "my historic attitude." He is never an unbiassed observer; he evidently takes sides. He, however, claims to be a closer student of the native than some who have gone before:—

"I read in a pamphlet (I will not give the author's name) that the Marquesan especially resembles the Paumotu. I should take the two races, though so near in neighbourhood, to be extremes of Polynesian diversity. The Marquesan is certainly the most beautiful of human races, and one of the tallest—the Paumotu averaging a good inch shorter, and not even handsome; the Marquesan open handed, inert, insensible to religion, childishly self-indulgent—the Paumotu greedy, hardy, enterprising, a religious disputant, and with a trace of the ascetic character."

Regarding religion as introduced by Protestant and Catholic emissaries, Stevenson recognizes many absurdities and much lack of humour, a deficiency which leads some,

we fear, to overrate human virtues. Still, he does distinctly state that the missionaries are the best and most useful whites in the Pacific. The white field to choose from is not wide; the only other Europeans are traders, who have not precisely high ideas of morality in any sphere of life. We light on the phrase "the world-enveloping dishonesty of the white man." Rarely comes to these parts, we dare say, a novelist and essayist like Stevenson, who satisfies the gaze of an acute chief directed at his eyes and mouth, and wins a splendid reception after passing this severe scrutiny. Stevenson had a face which did not suggest confidence as a rule, and has made pretty play elsewhere with his gift of looking disreputable; but it appears that Tembinok' of Apemama in the Gilberts saw deep, and the stay of the Stevenson party on the island near the palace of that magnate was so entrancing to them that it has made good reading for us. Here author and narrative are both at their best; and for this fourth part, which is more naturally and effectively written than the rest, we forgive him any unsatisfactory things that we have noted before. Tembinok' is a remarkable monarch, and goes far to reconcile one to the theory of the benevolent despot as the best of governments. He is a man of great character, who recognizes his limitations. He acknowledges that he is swindled a little by English traders, of whom he buys anything that is new, but, much swindled, he may object to deal again. He wears anything from a frock to a naval uniform, and he rules with an apparent, but skilfully directed indolence over three well-planted islands. His entire household is ordered by feminine hands, his "family." Besides the queen proper and the favourite of the hour, we find figuring in the background

"a multitude of ladies, the lean, the plump, and the elephantine, some in saque frocks, some in the hairbreadth *ridi*; high-born and low, slave and mistress; from the queen to the scullion, from the favourite to the scraggy sentries at the palisade. Not all of these of course are of 'my family,'—many are mere attendants; yet a surprising number shared the responsibility of the king's trust. These were key-bearers, treasurers, wardens of the armoury, the napery, and the stores. Each knew and did her part to admiration. Should anything be required—a particular gun, perhaps, or a particular bolt of stuff,—the right queen was summoned; she came bringing the right chest, opened it in the king's presence, and displayed her charge in perfect preservation—the gun cleaned and oiled, the goods duly folded. Without delay or haste, and with the minimum of speech, the whole great establishment turned on wheels like a machine. Nowhere have I seen order more complete and pervasive."

Stevenson, "with a passion for all games," mastered the private and peculiar sort of poker affected by Tembinok', and the following delightful passage, which we cannot resist quoting, explains much of the monarch's success:—

"Tembinok' puts up a double stake, and receives in return two hands to choose from: a shallow artifice which the wives (in all these years) have not yet fathomed. He himself, when talking with me privately, made not the least secret that he was secure of winning; and it was thus he explained his recent liberality on board the Equator. He let the wives buy their own tobacco, which pleased them at the moment.

He won it back at cards, which made him once more, and without fresh expense, that which he ought to be,—the sole fount of all indulgences. And he summed the matter up in that phrase with which he almost always concludes any account of his policy: 'Mo' betta.'"

Stevenson was, amongst other adventures, cured of a cold by the mere tapping of a sorcerer, who sent him into a dreamless stupor from which he awoke cured, though he adds that he was not a favourable subject for hypnotism. Sorcery of the sort would be useful over here just now; but the world is not yet sufficiently advanced to receive such cures with complacency, if, indeed, it ventures to try them at all. The enterprising will say, with Count Fosco, that it is the characteristic of the English intellect to be cautious in the wrong place; and all the obscurantists—a large and ponderous body—will say that there is nothing in it, and if there is anything, it is very wrong.

The Rubā'iyat of Omar Khayyam. Translated by Edward FitzGerald. With a Commentary by H. M. Batson and a Biographical Introduction by E. D. Ross. (Methuen & Co.)

BLASPHEMER, atheist, Sybarite—such elegant terms, happily less in favour of late, one has long been accustomed to hear applied to the old Persian mathematician and epigram maker, whom some forty years ago Edward FitzGerald introduced to the Western world. As a rule, indeed, the scandalized knew nothing about him beyond what they had picked up from the paraphrase. Omar's relation to the Omarians was a peculiarly astronomical one. When the new planet swam into their ken, they beheld him from afar through a glass, and they did not imitate the silence of Cortes. Three times they shouted "We know," and thousands answered "We believe." One of our most sagacious and delightful critics was swept off his feet by the star-gazing crowd, and drew an idyllic picture of Omar as the idle singer, wreathing roses, lapt in peace and gay content, lounging his life away in Epicurean serenity. And even now this phantom Omar is perhaps only scotched, not killed, for a popular impression once created is hard to destroy.

During the eighth and following centuries a great tide of mysticism passed over the Mohammedan empire. Like those terrible plagues which, coming none knows whence, suddenly arise and devastate whole continents, this fever of religion found innumerable victims among all ranks and classes of society. Exaggerated devotion, cruel austerities borrowed from Christian monks, a numbing consciousness of sin, a crushing fear of God united with boundless resignation, were the symptoms of Sūfism in its early ascetic phase, when the Sūfi was little more than an orthodox fanatic. The new learning changed all that. Greek philosophies and Gnostic speculations, transplanted from the schools of Alexandria, bore strange fruit under an Eastern sky: the Sūfi became in fact, if not avowedly, an infidel possessed with the wildest pantheistic ideas. As the free and unreserved expression of these would have endangered their owner's head, it was necessary to

invent a symbolic medium which should not express, but imply them. Hence love and wine, rose and nightingale, moth and candle, potter and pot—in a word, all the thousand and one fleeting images that shadow forth a deeper spiritual meaning to the wise. Probably never before or since has the jargon of a sect exercised so wide and lasting a dominion over the minds of a great people. With some notable exceptions, Persian poetry, sacred and profane alike, draws its vocabulary and ideas from the fashion of speech elaborated by these mystical euphuists. The result is curious and puzzling enough. Sublime odes, breathing rapture in every line, are on the surface hardly distinguishable from passionate lyrics of human love or mad outbursts of Bacchanalian fervour:—

Meum est propositum in taberna mori:
Vinum sit appositum morientis ori,
Ut dicant, cum venerint angelorum chori,
"Deus sit propitius huic potatori!"

These famous verses form part of a drinking-song attributed to Walter Mapes, but, literally rendered into Persian, they would find their natural place in the *divān* of a Sūfi poet. What is merely satiric wit in the mouth of an Oxford archdeacon may be sung in sober earnest by a congregation of dervishes at Shirāz.

It is clear, then, that a thorough familiarity with the Sūfi hieroglyphic or cipher is indispensable to the right understanding of the 'Rubā'iyāt.' This statement is not less true if the question whether Omar accepted Sūfism in its entirety be answered in the negative. Even if he attached small significance to the poetic dialect of the day, he could not be independent of the material with which he preferred or was constrained to work. There is no doubt that his poetry is saturated with mysticism. Many quatrains included in the collection give pointed utterance to commonplaces of Sūfi doctrine, and show that Omar had studied the sayings and legends of the saints. Thus the line,

How can I repent save God grant me penitence? is derived from a saying of Rābi'a, a holy woman who dwelt at Jerusalem in the first half of the eighth century. Sharply opposed to the mystical quatrains are those which repeat the Horatian philosophy of life with an ironical exaggeration of gaiety and a mocking insistence on the text "All flesh is grass." A very large number, about three-fourths of the whole, are ambiguous in expression and may be interpreted mystically or otherwise. It seems likely that the double meaning, apart from its evident usefulness as a means of disarming persecution, was often deliberately cultivated in order to tantalize the reader and pique his ingenuity by keeping him, as it were, suspended between heaven and earth. Hafiz did this to perfection, and Omar, we think, would have taken a grim pleasure in doing it. But the point is not one to be decided by European judges: Omar's countrymen alone are competent to discover his tendency and intention, and they have all but unanimously pronounced him on the side of the angels. That Omar was a pure Sūfi, like Jalālu'd-din Rūmī, no one who has compared their writings will maintain; rather, living at a time when the religious wave had spent its force, he clung in sheer desperation and not without backslidings to

a vague pantheism which appealed to his imagination if it failed to satisfy his intellect. Such beliefs as he held were not founded on reason, and his reason was never duped by them, but ridiculed all beliefs, his own included.

Mrs. Batson's commentary

"has been written with a view to helping, if possible, those who on their first introduction to Omar Khayyam, as interpreted by FitzGerald, find difficulties in the way of understanding him."

Certainly the 'Rubā'iyāt' furnish abundant matter for legitimate and helpful comment. The average reader may fairly look for an explanation of "False Morning," "Iram," "Jamshyd's Sev'n-ring'd Cup," "from Māh to Mābi," "Parwān and Mushtārī," and other Oriental allusions. He may also expect to receive enlightenment as to the meaning of obscure passages, and to be told what parts of FitzGerald's version are not represented in the original. All this could be done in comparatively few pages. Mrs. Batson takes about a hundred and thirty. In fact, what she has written is not so much a commentary as a paraphrase of the whole poem. She has said some things that were worth saying, though they might have been said more tersely, but alas! the memory of these is drowned in the placid flow of platitude. Is there any possible reader of the 'Rubā'iyāt' cursed with so base and abject an apprehension that he should be brought to a pause by plain English like this?—

The Worldly Hope men set their Hearts upon
Turns Ashes—or it prospers; and anon,
Like Snow upon the Desert's dusty Face,
Lighting a little hour or two—is gone.

Since Mrs. Batson devotes an entire page of "commentary" to these verses, one can only conclude that she has hopes of getting Omar adopted as a text-book for those deficient in understanding.

No judgment "based on the study of literal translations" can be adequate or convincing, but, with this reservation, the account of Omar's philosophy is sympathetic, and probably not far from the truth:—

"He never denies God, though he criticises, questions, condemns Him. He calls himself in one of his quatrains 'a slave in revolt,' and this phrase admirably describes his position in the matter. He is undoubtedly rebellious, but he does not therefore cease to be a slave. He sees in his Master various attributes and methods of dealing which he cannot approve, and he does not hesitate to tell his mind concerning them. He is undeniably a sceptic, but his scepticism may be said to be within the confines of faith, and has in it an infinite yearning for truth, as well as for the conviction which judgment forces him to hold in suspense.....It has been shown that the same point of view is observable in Tennyson's 'Two Voices,' and also in 'In Memoriam'; and that our own poet, being unable to find a logical solution of his difficulties, was obliged to fall back on a moral conviction of God and of His love."

Now, Sūfism is the religion of love *par excellence*, and because Omar sometimes jeered at the professors of this faith, it would be unsafe to assume that he must have rejected it. For him free-thought was an intellectual necessity, and he was keenly alive to the weaknesses and hypocrisies of the current systems of religion; but his poetry also attests that he was profoundly influenced by the mystical spirit, which

seems to have entered into his heart while he sternly rebuked it with his head.

If Mrs. Batson's general estimate of Omar is on the whole satisfactory, her treatment of the philosophical theories involved in some of the quatrains cannot be equally commended. Not only does she indulge in a vast deal of loose and irrelevant talk, but she betrays no diffidence whatever in using unwarrantable and even preposterous arguments. It is not surprising that a person who attempts to thread the mazes of this thorny subject without first-hand knowledge should come to grief; the wonder is that any one should make the attempt. The opening sentence of the commentary may serve as a criterion of her acquaintance with Persian literature:—

"The poetry of Persia includes the epic and the elegy, the lyric and the ode; but in the union of mystic and moral through the medium of the *rubā'i*, or quatrain, most of the great poets have found their main vehicle of expression."

Serious students of Omar will turn with relief to the biographical and historical introduction by Prof. Denison Ross, which is a careful and scholarly piece of work. The facts of the poet's life are shrouded in darkness; we do not know for certain the year of his birth or of his death, but although Prof. Ross has not been able to supplement our information in any considerable degree, he has collected from an article by Prof. Schukovski, of St. Petersburg, and from various other sources, all the most important references to Omar that have yet been discovered in Persian and Arabic literature. These are interesting and occasionally suggestive, but as they consist chiefly of anecdotes and unfavourable criticism, curiosity is whetted rather than satisfied. One could not help feeling that the romantic story of the three school-friends was almost too good to be true, and Prof. Ross is inclined to reject it on two grounds: "Firstly, because the oldest historians make no mention of it; and secondly, on account of the improbability, though there is of course no question of the impossibility, of Omar and Hasan-i-Sabbah having lived to such an old age."

He thinks that the growth of the legend may be explained by a confusion between Nizam ul Mulk and the Vezir Anushirwan ibn Khalid, who appears to have been at school with the famous Assassin; and this conjecture is at least plausible. The biography is preceded by an excellent historical sketch of Persian affairs during Omar's lifetime.

This section of the book is laudably free from error. "Lawāzim ul-Amkina" (p. 57) does not mean "needs of places," but "local characteristics or conditions." "The Teheran edition of the 'Rubā'iyāt'" (p. 71) should be "The Teheran edition of the 'Chahār Makāla,'" "Nizam ul-Hukm" (p. 57) is a misprint.

University of Cambridge. *College Histories.*—*Christ's College.* By John Peile, Litt.D., Master of the College. (Robinson & Co.)

DR. PEILE'S history of the college over which he worthily presides impresses one with absolute confidence in its thoroughness of workmanship in every part. The Master of Christ's knows all the details of his college buildings and of its property. He

is conversant with the methods of managing estates and keeping accounts in former times. He has ransacked all possible manuscript materials, whether preserved among the college muniments or in the library or elsewhere; and he has brought together not a little curious and interesting information which had hitherto remained unpublished. His book may, therefore, be gladly accepted by Christ's men, and by others who wish to study the history of our universities as revealed in the individual life of each separate society, as a final and authoritative record—at least until Dr. Peile, or some one who has learnt from him how such a work should be compiled, will venture upon a larger undertaking, and tell the story, with tables and documents, in a complete and monumental form. Meanwhile, within the limits imposed by the "series" to which it belongs, the present work is as good as it could be.

Yet the history of Christ's College is not altogether exhilarating. Of course, everything connected with the name of the foundress, the Lady Margaret, and her adviser Bishop Fisher, has a pleasing savour of true piety and love of learning. But the tradition she left was short-lived, and Christ's became conspicuous among the Puritan colleges of Cambridge; and however estimable Puritanism may have been as a theological system, it was never wholly at its ease within the limitations of college courts and of college statutes. Indeed, it tried as often as it could to avoid the one and elude the other. Dr. Peile does his best to make interesting the members of this school who fall within his domain. He tells us of William Perkins, "the faithful minister," who "would pronounce the word *damn* with such an emphasis as left a doleful echo in his auditors' ears a good while after." Another, Samuel Ward, wrote a private diary recording "his daily sins and omissions of duty":—

"e.g., 'my negligence in not coming to prayers,' 'my little pity for the boy which was whipt in hall,' 'my ripping up Mr. Bancroft's jest to Mr. Newhouse,' 'my pride at being with Mr. Pott walking at Emmanuel College Close,' 'my proud thought because so many at the [Sturbridge] fayre asked my counsell in buying bookes'; together with sundry confessions of overeating of cheese, 'which is very hurtfull for my body at 3 o'clock,' and of cherries, plums, 'damsels,' and pears (for which he had an incurable weakness) 'both before and after supper'—i.e., five o'clock."

These domestic traits harmonize better with the spirit of a college history than the lists of titles of books written, or of preferments gained, by former *alumni*, although of course Dr. Peile was bound to record them all too.

Those who desire to get a complete view of the social and intellectual conditions existing at Cambridge in the period following the Reformation will learn much from these pages. It is remarkable how close a connexion was maintained between Christ's and the two specifically Puritan foundations of Emmanuel and Sidney Sussex. Dr. Peile does not, however, we think, call attention to the fact that Sir Walter Mildmay, himself a Christ's man and a benefactor of his old college, expressly ordained in his statutes for Emmanuel that if its Fellows chose to go beyond their own body in electing a Master, the preference should be

given to a member of Christ's. The Puritan character of Christ's (though it numbered also not a few Roman Catholics) is in itself a puzzling phenomenon, when we consider that half of the Fellows were bound to be taken from north of the Trent, and that this proportion was sometimes—it seems, against statute—exceeded. The most famous representative of this tradition is, of course, John Milton; but Dr. Peile is not able to add any fresh information of importance to what is already known concerning his life at Christ's. He thinks, on strictly constitutional grounds, that the story of Milton having been "whipt" by his tutor is unlikely, for only a prælector or dean could whip, and there is no evidence to show that Chappell held either office. Otherwise, he adds, "in itself there is nothing antecedently improbable in the flogging of an undergraduate, who was not yet 'adultus.'" Dr. Johnson, who did much to revive this lamentable story, certainly did not bother about the evidence for it.

Christ's holds a well-marked place in the history of English philosophy and philosophical teaching at three different epochs. First, it helped to introduce the "new logic" of Peter Ramus in the last quarter of the sixteenth century. Next, it contributed to the band of the "Cambridge Platonists," largely under the stimulus of Descartes, two of its most prominent members, Ralph Cudworth and Henry More. Thirdly, in the latter part of the eighteenth century it took a leading share in popularizing Utilitarianism through the works of Paley. The name of Charles Darwin might add a far more brilliant lustre to the college, if there were any reason for connecting his scientific theories with his studies at Christ's. To judge from the parenthetical way in which Dr. Peile mentions his name, this was not the case. Yet surely his friendship with Henslow—here just hinted—might have served as the text for some illustrations of tastes and pursuits rare in the Cambridge of that day, but full of promise for the future.

Incidental notices of the numbers of the college are very curious. The fifty-eight admissions in 1644-5 and the fifty-two in the following year are no doubt exceptional; but it is strange that they should have fallen to seven by the middle of the eighteenth century, and averaged less than nine in the first decade of the nineteenth. Those were not, indeed, times of academic prosperity, though single persons prospered exceedingly. One Master of Christ's, 1754-80, held apparently at one time, besides his mastership, a deanery, a chancellorship, an archdeaconry, three prebends, and three livings. Another Master, who had been for years the business man of the college, not only robbed it of a large amount of money, but was also guilty of gross immorality at his country parish: "he ceased to be Master," and was succeeded by two future bishops of unblemished character.

Dr. Peile shows his critical skill throughout the book. He will not claim for his college more than its rights. "The old belief," he says bluntly, "that Sir John Harrington belonged to Christ's is wrong," and he only cherishes "an imagination" that Holinshed, the chronicler, was a member of the college. Nor does he think

it at all likely that 'Gammer Gurton's Needle' was the work of Bishop Still. Everywhere we find the same completeness of knowledge and moderation of judgment. It is not Dr. Peile's fault that some of his statements about the college buildings are a little puzzling, in consequence of their perverse orientation, the First Court being described as "an irregular trapezium placed in such a direction that the meridian line coincides very nearly with one of the diagonals." But a rough plan would have helped the reader considerably. It is difficult to remember that "north" regularly means "north-west," and so on. The misprint of a date—"1722" for 1772—on p. 246 is worth noting.

The one weak point about the book is the index, which is defective not only in its headings, but also in the references appended to them. Names which occur in the text are omitted or inserted without any apparent system. In one case, where we remembered the facts, but not the name, we were only able to find the place wanted by the help of Mr. Bass Mullinger's admirably indexed history of the university.

GREEK PLANT, STONE, AND ANIMAL WORSHIP.

De Græcorum Diis non referentibus Speciem Humanam. Marinus Willem de Visser. (Leyden, Los.)

It is curious to find totemism appearing as *totemismus* in a Latin thesis for the doctor's degree at Leyden. In this learned and valuable treatise of 270 pages Dr. de Visser examines the non-anthropomorphic elements in ancient Greek religion and ritual, such as the worship, or at all events religious regard of some kind, paid to animals and plants and to stones, whether rude or fashioned by men's hands into cones and other shapes. M. de Visser parts company at once with the philological school of mythologists, Kuhn, Schwartz, Max Müller, and their allies. He thinks that the *anthropologi*, Mr. Tylor, Mr. Frazer, Mannhardt, and others, have "overthrown the philological system almost from the foundation." He is not a disciple of Mr. Spencer, and is apt to cite Mr. Jevons, Mr. Hartland, and other modern English authors, not always, of course, agreeing with their hypotheses. He does not appear to have much, if any, acquaintance with Mr. Farnell's erudite volumes, which are among the most useful to workers in this field.

M. de Visser begins with the theory, probably premature, that all forms of cult originate in "animismus" (Mr. Tylor's animism, and Mr. Spencer's "ghost theory," we believe him to mean), as a general primeval philosophy of things. At first souls or spirits are believed to animate all things; next souls flit about unattached. The benevolent souls are worshipped, the hostile souls are scared or propitiated. M. de Visser, following Schultze, next stretches the word "fetishism" so as to include the theory of all worshipful objects, from a stone to the sun. This we think injudicious; fetishes are better regarded as the small, unconsidered objects tenanted by a spirit sometimes, or selected for some other reason of "luck," or because indicated in dreams. Next M. de Visser deals with totemism, which also

"is based on animism," though this opinion is much disputed. Unlike McLennan, he recognizes three kinds of totem—that of kinship, that of each sex, and that of the individual. The term "totem" in strictness applies only to the first class, and ought not to be confused with non-hereditary protective animals or plants of the sexes (in parts of Australia) or of individuals, such as the American Manitou selected at puberty. As to the origin of totemism, our author rejects the hypotheses of Mr. Spencer and Lord Avebury, which "remind us of the mythical interpretations of Mr. Max Müller." Mr. Frazer's theory of the totem as the "soul-box" or "life-token" is open to Mr. Tylor's objections and to others. In his new edition of 'The Golden Bough' (vol. iii. p. 416, note 3; p. 419, note 5) Mr. Frazer, seeing his way to a new theory, perhaps reconcilable with that already stated, says "it seems scarcely worth while to patch up an old theory which the next new facts may perhaps entirely demolish." The opinions of Wilken and Mr. Tylor, based on the theory of transmigration of ancestral souls into worshipful plants and animals, appear to please M. de Visser best, as they connect totemism with animism. He does not allude to the theory of the Inca Garcilasso de la Vega (which originally was also that of McLennan) that the plant and animal names were mere distinctions of groups of people, whether chosen from within or given from without the group. The tendency to this custom survives in many English villages, one village killing its neighbours' animal by way of insult, as in ancient Egypt. The plant or animal name of the human group once adopted, mythical theories of its origin and magical uses of the supposed connexion between the man "mouse" and the ordinary mouse, for example, would follow in course of time. A group of savages would not be called "trout" or "kangaroo" because their magic (as in Central Australia) multiplied these animals; they would be supposed capable of using a magical connexion with the animals, because, bearing their names, they must be of their nature. Mr. Keane has also indicated his adhesion to this theory, which, we understand, he evolved independently, without the suggestion of Garcilasso or of McLennan, who never published his idea.

M. de Visser next states the different opinions of authors as to the religious importance of totemism, from the rather extreme notions of Robertson Smith and Mr. Jevons to the more moderate and, we think, more probable ideas of Mr. Tylor, M. Marillier, and MM. Hubert and Mauss. Totemism intimately affected nascent society, and (as early man had to explain totemism to himself) it generated multitudinous myths, which later reflected themselves in art. Ritual, too, was probably touched by totemism. But we do not see that it greatly affected religion.

Gods are derived by M. de Visser from fetishes. The inhabiting spirits of fetishes were disattached and became gods. It is wholly premature to reason thus, till the chapter of the anthropomorphic supreme beings behind the scenes of savage and barbaric religions has been studied. They cannot be exaggerated ancestral spirits,

where such spirits are not worshipped; nor can they be disengaged spirits of sun and sky, where no cult is given to sky or sun. They are often not "animistic" at all, but merely supernormal anthropomorphic beings, moral and creative. There is no use in speculating about religious origins till the whole neglected theme of these beings has been critically analyzed.

M. de Visser next examines the many various causes of stone, plant, and animal worship, apart from totemism. He then collects from many sources, literary and numismatic, or otherwise artistic, the facts about non-anthropomorphic religion in Greece. This is the most valuable part of his book. He believes that the god or goddess originally was the animal which is, later, his or her victim in the sacrifice, a theme too complex and obscure to be argued on here, though we may say that there are highly respectable anthropomorphic deities where sacrifice has not yet been evolved. These deities have been developed by low savages, apparently to meet their moral and speculative needs. The relation of stocks and stones to idols is well worked out by M. de Visser, whose learned and valuable work sadly needs an index. All our speculations at present are much at the mercy of "new facts," as Mr. Frazer says, and perhaps we may add, of old facts to which due attention has never yet been paid.

A History of Newport Pagnell. By F. W. Bull. (Kettering, Ross.)

MR. BULL has compiled a serviceable book relating to Newport Pagnell, but it can hardly be awarded the title of a history. It is in a great measure, though not solely, compiled from printed books, some of which cannot be described as difficult of access. The more modern portions are by far the best. The account of the charities and the townlands is really valuable; the chronology of events also contains several things of interest; but we cannot speak highly of those portions of the work which deal with the earlier manorial and ecclesiastical history of the town. As to these, we are pretty confident that if further research had been instituted it would have been rewarded by much that is left unrecorded.

The parish register seems to be of some interest. It begins in the first year of Queen Elizabeth, but down to 1608 exists only in a transcript. It was, like other records of its class, kept irregularly during the early years of the Civil War, but is, we think, otherwise perfect. A few extracts are included; these might have been extended with advantage, unless the author has reason to believe that the record will shortly be printed in full. Cromwell's son Oliver died at Newport Pagnell of smallpox, in or about March, 1644, but the entry of his burial has not been found in the register. The fact, so far as at present known, rests only on the authority of one news-sheet, the *Parliament Scout*. It is possible that the death occurred not in the town itself, but at some outpost in a neighbouring village. In that case he would probably be buried in the parish where he died. The village registers in the neighbourhood should be searched, on the chance of discovering

his place of rest. Among the burials at Newport Pagnell in 1612 occurs the name of Margaret Cromwell. Can she have been a kinswoman of the future Protector? The plague was very virulent at Newport. In 1665 there were but thirty-seven burials registered; in the following year they rose to 697. Of course, we must not conclude that all this increase of mortality was due to the pestilence, but that it was largely responsible cannot be doubted, in view of its virulence as recorded in other quarters.

Though in the midst of fighting, Newport Pagnell itself suffered little trouble from the Civil War, except the burden incident to a very heavy taxation. In the summer of 1643 the Royalists had possession of the place, but it soon fell into the hands of the Parliament, for Skippon fortified it "with motes and drawbridges," which were inspected by the Earl of Essex in November of the same year. These fortifications were probably almost entirely earthworks, but they must have been of a very substantial character, for in the following November Newport Pagnell was spoken of as one of the strongest places in the kingdom. It was, as Mr. Bull points out, a position of importance as the outwork and bulwark of the Eastern Association, and a point of contact with the great Royalist garrison at Oxford. Skippon did not remain governor very long. The fortifications were probably not finished when he left his post. He is said to have asked to be relieved of his charge, but it is probable that he was wanted elsewhere on more urgent business. His successor was Sir Samuel Luke. He may have been a skilful commander, but he was a narrow-minded man, completely out of touch with those who were then the ruling spirits in the army. In the summer of 1645—a few days, as it would seem, after the battle of Naseby—two captains of Fairfax's army spent a Sunday at Newport on their way to London. Instead of going to the parish church, they delivered "a treatise to some friends in a quiet and peaceable manner." For this conduct, which must then have been very common among the Independent portion of the army, Luke imprisoned them, and they were sent back to the Lord General as stragglers from his army. Fairfax not unnaturally resented this, and the ensign and provost-marshal who had arrested them were eventually cashiered. Luke's duties as a soldier soon came to an end. As member of Parliament for Bedford he must have been among those disqualified by the Self-Denying Ordinance. Capt. Charles D'Oyley succeeded him as governor; but the post, after the great victory of Naseby, was probably one of little responsibility. The garrison was removed in the autumn of 1646, and the fortifications ordered to be dismantled, but the latter order was not carried into immediate effect. In May, 1649, they appear to have been in good condition, for the Committee of both Houses regarded them as highly dangerous if seized by the enemy. The order was apparently then executed, though perhaps not wholly to the letter, for some fifty years ago traces of the embankments might be seen in places known as Hilly Close and Bury Field.

We do not hear that during the occupation of Newport by the Parliamentary garrison the church was desecrated, but some-

thing akin happened a hundred years later, when the Duke of Cumberland was on his way to encounter Prince Charles Edward. During his stay at Newport the church was occupied as a barrack. An amusing story of this visit is told relating to Lathbury bridge, which was in those days private property. It was secured by two portals, which were in flood time opened on payment of toll. The key was kept by a Mrs. Symes, the proprietress of the bridge. When the Duke of Cumberland arrived there he found it impossible to cross the ford with his army, so he sent a messenger for the key; but Mrs. Symes was a Jacobite, so she refused to send it, telling her servants to say she was in London and had taken it with her. The duke was enraged, as was but natural; so he is reported to have declared "that if any man, woman, or child would say that the people of Lathbury were Papists, he would plant his guns against it and blow it to atoms." No one, it appears, was at hand prepared to tell the required falsehood, and so Lathbury escaped bombardment.

Mr. Bull includes a good account of the various Nonconformist bodies which have existed in Newport. He has been wise in doing this, for they are as much a part of the history of a town as those matters which are more commonly dealt with, and information regarding them is frequently very scanty. We know an instance of the records of one of the oldest Baptist congregations in England falling within the last few years into improper hands, and being in consequence either destroyed or lost. Some of the author's gleanings concerning the early Quakers are decidedly curious. They have most of them appeared in print before, but only in a periodical not easily accessible. It seems that during the last days of the Commonwealth Friends were prosecuted for riding to their religious assembly on the Sunday. On one occasion a justice of the peace caused a Quaker to be put in the stocks for this offence. We are not quite sure, but we think that in acting thus he went beyond his power. The sufferer could hardly come under the definition of a rogue and a vagabond. In 1661 Henry Cunningham of Newport, butcher, was sent to prison for refusing to enter into a bond not to kill meat in Lent. This is a very late instance of the endeavour to enforce the statutes regarding abstinence from flesh.

About twelve years ago, it appears, during some excavations made in the High Street a number of wooden pipes were discovered. They were evidently made for conveying water, but their existence had been forgotten. Such relics of a not remote past have been found in several other places—in Hull, for example, and in London, as *Notes and Queries* pointed out, less than two years ago, during some Oxford Street excavations. Those we have seen were made of poles from eight to ten feet long, with a bore-hole down the centre. It is strange that when waterworks were first established in our provincial towns it did not occur to those interested in them to use lead for this purpose. Several of the English monastic houses did so in the Middle Ages. In this, as in other matters of reform, the English people have lost by their prevailing tendency "stare super antiquas vias."

EDUCATIONAL BOOKS.

Report of the Board of Education, 1899-1900. (H.M. Stationery Office.)—This recently issued Blue-book consists of three fairly bulky volumes, containing altogether more than 1300 pages. It is historically interesting for the reason that it is the first report of the newly constituted Board of Education, and the last dealing with the administration of *graded* grants to public elementary schools; *block* grants will in future years be paid in all cases. The Committee of Council on Education was appointed by an Order in Council in 1839, and during its threescore years of official activity it endured much unsparing criticism and did much valuable work, and under its auspices free efficient instruction has been placed within reach of nearly every child in England and Wales. The permanent chiefs of the late Education Department were men of acknowledged ability—Kay-Shuttleworth, Lingen, Sandford, Cumin, Kekewich. Sir George Kekewich is a link between the old Department and the new Board, but as secretary to the Board his influence is enormously extended. He not only guides and controls the activities of the old Departments of Education and of Science and Art, but assumes responsibility for much of the secondary education of the country, and looks after the Geological Survey of the British Isles, as well as certain great museums and libraries. The report itself of the Board of Education fills the first, the smallest volume of the Blue-book, and is divided into three parts, the first being introductory, and the second and third dealing respectively with secondary and elementary education. We learn from part i. that the Board of Education replaced the older official bodies in Whitehall and South Kensington "as from 1st April, 1900." Considerable changes in the official staff were necessary to enable the Board to cope with its new educational work and to exercise certain powers of the Charity Commissioners and of the Board of Agriculture that were transferred to it, and an account of the reorganization of the office is given. The Board of Education explains the mode of incidence of the new block grants that will be paid to all public elementary schools on and after the 1st of next April, and the modifications of the curricula in these schools which the new Code will effect. The main feature of the new regulations will be greater freedom in choice of subjects and in arrangement of classes, while for the first time a complete system of adequate elementary instruction is expected. The course for older scholars must (as a rule) include English, arithmetic, drawing (for boys), needlework (for girls), lessons in geography, history, and common things, singing, and physical exercises; to these one or more subjects may be added. There can be little doubt that, if school managers generally avail themselves fully of the advantages offered by the new Code, a decided advance will be made in our system of national elementary education; for the general object of the late alterations has undoubtedly been "to secure for schools greater financial stability, to allow more freedom in the classification of scholars, to make the curriculum more liberal and practical, and to provide for the varying needs of different types of schools." Statutes have of late years been enacted for the financial relief of teachers as well as for lightening the financial burden on necessitous schools. The Elementary School Teachers (Superannuation) Act came into operation in 1899: its conditions were accepted by a great majority of teachers certificated before this date, and now "the Act is obligatory upon teachers certificated after its commencement." The aid grant provided by the Voluntary Schools Act (1897) is administered throughout the country by associations of voluntary schools. Seventy-five of these associations have been formed, and there are only 201 schools which have not joined any of them.

H.M. inspectors show that the aid grant has been of great service in maintaining not only the efficiency but the existence of voluntary schools. The difficulty, however, of raising school subscriptions is ever present, and voluntary contributions now stand at 6s. 2d. per unit of average attendance—rather higher than in 1898, but lower than in 1897. Two classes of exceptional children are receiving the special attention of the Board of Education—viz., defective and epileptic children, and those living on canal boats and barges. It seems almost impossible to ensure the efficient instruction of children of the floating canal population, and the cases of both these classes are full of difficulty.

Parts ii. and iii. of the report give a mass of valuable statistical and other information concerning secondary and elementary education. The record of elementary schools is the more interesting, because it is comparative. It is a startling record of very great increase in the number of schools, of scholars, and (with one notable exception) of teachers, as well as of rates, subscriptions, and cost of maintenance and building. Pupil teachers are the one exception: their present number is 30,783, against 31,038 in the previous year—a decrease of 255. The number of teachers of all other classes has increased, and the salaries of certificated teachers have risen considerably since the passing of Mr. Forster's Act in 1870. The average for masters is now 125l. 13s. 6d., for women 84l. 13s. 4d. Enormous sums have been expended in school building, and voluntary schools alone have expended since 1870, and without Government aid, "at least 11,000,000l." During the year ending August 31st, 1899, no less than 20,064 day schools in England and Wales were referred to the Education Department for inspection. These schools contained 31,173 departments under separate head teachers, and furnished accommodation for 6,417,514 scholars. There were 5,654,092 children on the registers of these schools—i.e., in more or less regular attendance; but of these only 214,563 were over the age of thirteen, and 54,634 over fourteen.

England and Wales are divided into ten divisions, each under the general superintendency of one of H.M. chief inspectors. H.M. inspectors in charge of districts report to their respective chiefs, and these report on the divisions to the Board of Education. Five of these general reports on elementary schools are printed in this Blue-book: by Mr. Aldis in the west central, the Rev. F. F. Cornish in the north-western, Mr. Danby in the south-eastern, the Rev. C. C. Du Port in the east central, and Mr. King in the metropolitan division. We thus gain a pretty fair view of the state of our public elementary schools throughout England. The report of the inspectors is, on the whole, encouraging, and there can be no reasonable doubt that our primary schools are improving year by year; but it is clear that the progress made by the scholars would be far greater and more rapid if their attendance were more regular than it has yet become—that is, if parents would allow their children to absent themselves from school on account of sickness or for other reasonable cause only, and many excuses become unreasonable by too frequent repetition. Boys may be lured away for a day's "beating" once or twice during the year with no very disastrous effect on their schooling, but if this happens a dozen or a score of times during the year they and their school are both injured. Improved attendance appears to be a desideratum in all the divisions. It is curious to note differences between neighbouring districts in other matters. For instance, Dr. Airy (Birmingham) writes of his infants' schools that they are "a source of constantly increasing pride to me....The infants' schools are better even than before"; while Mr. Green (Warwick) is dissatisfied with his—"they improve rather slowly." We find, again, that the

chief inspector in the south-eastern division reports very favourably of infants' progress and training: "some of the best and most pleasing work that falls under the inspection of H.M. inspectors is done in these schools and classes." We note with satisfaction that the inspectors insist throughout their reports on the great value of reading, probably the most useful and the most educative of the subjects of elementary instruction. Mr. Cornish points out that "it is possible to make too bookish a use of books": this is a wise caution, and falls in happily with the advice concerning the teaching and use of reading given by the majority of inspectors. Mr. Danby reports that reading has certainly improved in the south-east of England, and anticipates continued improvement. Mr. Du Port tells an amusing story of a parent who was deeply interested in her child's progress in the mysteries of the "halphabeck." He seems also to have had a romantic experience in the class-room of "a young and attractive teacher, of great charm, and strong influence in relation to her class." Mr. Du Port condemned the lady's method of teaching; but we wonder how far the personal equation came in.

The other elementary subjects, as well as the more advanced ones, placed for the last time in separate categories—class and specific—are carefully and fully discussed in these valuable reports. Some few years ago the stringent rule enforcing the annual formal examination of all scholars above the age of seven was relaxed, and these examinations are now but rare exceptions. We are glad to find that the inspectors consider the change to have produced good results: the schools are now better and more judiciously taught, and greater freedom in classification and increased liberty in choice and treatment of subjects have stimulated teachers and scholars, and infused new interest into their work. But there is a danger, which, we gather, several inspectors already realize, that this relaxation of control may be carried too far: examination undoubtedly has its use in school routine, and is perhaps better carried out by an imperial official than by an officer serving a local authority; and we doubt not that already the State pays very large sums of money for the instruction of its poorer children, with very slight guarantee that the instruction is efficient.

Public attention has of late been directed to the condition of rural schools, and the inspectors—acting, we presume, under orders of the Board—treat this subject at some length and with considerable care. Not the least of the difficulties of these schools is the financial one, but it is not the only one. Mr. Holmes, writing of the Oxford district, gives a most interesting account of rural schools in his part of England, their difficulties, work, and possibilities, and makes practical suggestions for supplying inefficient but willing teachers in village schools with a certain small but serviceable amount of professional training. All the reports discuss village schools more or less fully, and the discussion deserves serious attention.

Mr. Scott Coward writes on the training colleges. He includes a brief history of them, describes their actual condition and work, and makes several judicious suggestions for the widening of the professional training they offer. The distinctive note of Mr. Scott Coward's report, as of that of the other chief inspectors, is one of hopefulness: "To sum up. The spirit which now animates these institutions, imperfect as they are, if my estimate is correct, is a hopeful one." Miss Hyacinthe Deane reports on cookery and laundry work, the Hon. Mrs. Colborne on needlework, and Sir John Stainer on music; and then follow reprints of numerous official documents of different kinds.

This weighty Blue-book will, we fear, lie unread on the library shelves. It bristles with statistical tables, and these are always repellent to the general reader; but the letterpress at any rate should attract attention.

The reports on schools are full of interest, and are compiled by officials whose unrivalled experience makes their opinions, whether accepted or not by educationists, worthy of study. Those persons whom we should expect to read the reports most carefully will probably not look at them at all—we mean the certificated teachers. School managers are enjoined to supply their schools with copies of the Code and revised instructions; it would be well if they were also enjoined to supply at least a separate copy of the chief inspector's report of the division in which their schools stand.

Problems in Education. By William H. Winch. (Sonnenschein & Co.)—Mr. Winch's essay occupies about half the volume, the remainder containing appendices that treat of various subjects connected with the art and practice of teaching. He discusses with an appearance of great erudition, although sometimes with the obscurity due to an unrestrained use of crabbed technicalities, certain interesting vexed questions in psychology and metaphysics. These questions, or problems, are of the kinds that present themselves to those who think about education rather than to those who practise it. The mode of discussion adopted is such that what is said by the essayist is, in our judgment, not very luminous, and cannot be really helpful to persons engaged in educational work. Mr. Winch assures us he will be satisfied if to any extent he indicates "the great difficulty and range of the questions which an educational theorist must consider": this rather barren satisfaction he will enjoy—but little beyond it. At intervals the author's experience as inspector of schools for the London School Board overcomes his psychology and asserts itself; and then, as in the chapters 'On following Nature' and 'On the Method of studying Nature,' we get several serviceable suggestions. Much that we read in the essay is in its nature difficult and abstruse, and is remote, we cannot but suppose, from the every-day thoughts even of the teachers to whom "these few pages are gratefully inscribed"; and the obscurity of the matter of the volume is not lightened by the manner adopted in its treatment. Mr. Winch's style verges on pedantry: he is fond of long unusual words, and at times lapses into constructions both hazy and incorrect. The appendices, however, are to a large extent free from the blemishes that disfigure the essay itself. They are clear and to the point, and will be read with profit by many school teachers. It would be well if all young teachers could read appendix v.—notes on demonstration lessons given in the Imperial Institute, January 19th, 1900; and if managers of schools would read and think over appendix xiv., on noise in schools. But all the appendices are worth reading, and contain many useful practical hints. In fact, so long as the source of Mr. Winch's inspiration is experience rather than psychology, his teaching deserves consideration.

The Law relating to Schools and Teachers. By T. A. Organ. (Leeds, Arnold & Son.)—Mr. Organ is one of the standing counsel of the National Union of Teachers. This union has, whether rightly or wrongly we are not in a position to affirm, the reputation of being somewhat combative and litigious, and Mr. Organ has no doubt had exceptionally good opportunities of mastering the law of schools—at any rate, of public elementary ones; and he certainly has written a clear, well-arranged manual, that will be found very serviceable by all interested in education, whether as managers or governors, teachers or guardians of children. Even the general reader will find some interest in the chapters on elementary and technical education, and will probably be amazed to find how complicated our machinery is for the teaching of scholars for whose benefit subsidies are granted by the various departments of the Board of Education and by other duly constituted author-

ities in boroughs and counties. Mr. Organ is skilful in marshalling facts, quoting authorities, and citing cases; and the perplexed teacher or manager will find most difficulties well stated and clearly explained. Questions of technical instruction, what it is and is not, and the like, are lucidly and tersely handled; as are also those of religious instruction, school punishment, and teachers' tenure of office. Acts of Parliament concerning education, with their schedules, are quoted at length; and the usefulness of the book is increased by a carefully made and comprehensive index. We have found this last feature accurate; but it is difficult sometimes to find subjects wanted, as they are not always registered under what would seem their more obvious titles.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

A Century of English Fox-hunting, by Mr. George F. Underhill (Everett & Co.), is a nicely printed volume, of handsome exterior, but unfortunately it is without an index, an omission the more to be regretted because the work apparently is intended in no small degree to be a book of reference. We have had lately so many books about fox-hunting, such as 'The Belvoir Hunt' and 'Kings of the Hunting Field,' to mention two only out of the whole number, that it may be doubted whether there was any great need for this new contribution. But as the author, to judge from his personal experience and from his previous publications, should be as well informed as anybody upon that point, we may take it for granted that he considered himself to have discovered a gap to be filled; and it is not improbable that enthusiasts in the cause of fox-hunting may agree with him and may be grateful to him, though the ordinary reader and the mere smatterer in the sport of "galloping after a nasty smell" may be of a somewhat different opinion, in consequence of their inability to find much that is novel or interesting. In his zeal for what both he and others call "the sport of kings," though that description is commonly applied to horse-racing on the flat, our author employs language which would seem to imply that he confounds the wealth which possessors thereof expend upon their amusements, and which obviously must have been acquired previously, with wealth added to the possessions of the country. The circulation of wealth is undoubtedly of great benefit to the people of the land; but that is equally true by whatever means the circulation is effected, whether through the channel of sport or through any other; and it does not follow at all that sport may not be one of the least desirable of the channels. The first chapter is introductory, and in it the author touches lightly upon various topics more or less pertinent to his main purpose. The second, which must be regarded as a sacrifice to utility rather than to entertainment, devotes most of its pages, from 28 to 96 inclusive, to an enumeration of M.F.H.s during the nineteenth century, with the style and title of their packs, and with the dates of the several "masterships," commencing, of necessity almost, a little before 1801, because the arrangement is in alphabetical order of the masters' names, including one or two (such as the celebrated Mr. John Warde) whose "mastership" ran into the nineteenth from the previous century. The third and fourth chapters supply some 'Biographies in a Nutshell'—in other words, some brief notices of fox-hunters, about most of whom nearly everybody who cares for such matters must have read by this time as much almost as is worth knowing; but as regards the notorious Jack Mytton there seems to be some whitewashing by the author, who must allow, nevertheless, that "Nimrod" was more likely than anybody else to know and to tell the facts, and had every

reason to mitigate rather than to aggravate them. The fifth chapter, dealing with 'More Famous Horsemen of the Century,' is, of course, merely a sort of supplement to what has gone before. The sixth, with its 'Bibliography of the Hunting Field,' is about as dry and not so useful, because of its meagreness, as the second chapter concerning 'Masters of Hounds,' and contains a curious statement about the celebrated "H. B.," otherwise "Geoffrey Gambado," otherwise H. W. Bunbury, to the effect that "little is known" of his "personality." If his personal appearance and performances in the "pigskin" are meant by "personality," it may be that little has been recorded about him; but a sporting writer might have been expected to know that he was the younger brother of the famous Sir T. C. Bunbury, "president" of the Jockey Club and winner of the first Derby with Diomed, and that there is plenty of information about him in the 'Dictionary of National Biography,' where, however, it is not stated, as Mr. Underhill has found out apparently, that he "was born in Bread Street." There are six more chapters, dealing respectively with 'Stable Management,' with 'Cub-hunting and the Commencement of the Season,' with 'Ladies in the Hunting-Field,' with 'Fox-hunting and Warfare' (concerning which a little book published by an officer serving in South Africa was noticed in the *Athenæum* not long ago), with 'The Supervision of Gamekeepers,' and with 'Sport and its Relation to the State.' It remains only to add that the volume has for frontispiece a humorous coloured engraving, "from a drawing by John Leech," calculated to damp the ardour of fox-hunting aspirants.

Thomas's Hunting Diary for the new year, edited by T. F. Dale ('Land and Water' Office), is so nicely illustrated that it cannot fail to attract sportsmen. It is a pity that the advertisements are so intermingled with the text. There are some practical hints as to clothes and details of prize foxhounds, and also a useful map, showing how to reach by railway the shires most favoured with packs.

Mr. C. J. Melrose has written a capital book on *Bridge Whist* (Upcott Gill), with a rather controversial, but sensible introduction. The play with no trumps declared, one of the niceties of the game, requiring the best judgment, is ably considered. Some illustrative hands, as in "Cavendish's" books, are included at the end.

Chess Endings from Modern Master-Play, edited by Jacques Mieses (Routledge), is an excellent little volume. Thirty examples are given of recent encounters, and abundant notes. Analysis by such a master as Dr. Tarrasch is above suspicion, and the editor's remarks, often founded on German chess papers, seem sound, though the size of the book prevents their being so thoroughly exhaustive as always to satisfy us that such and such a move was fatal. Of especial interest are those cases in which a number of pawns are matched against a knight or bishop and fewer pawns. Here the advantage of having the move is generally decisive.

GREEK PHILOSOPHY.

On some Passages in the Seventh Book of the Eudemian Ethics attributed to Aristotle. By Henry Jackson, Litt.D. (Cambridge, University Press.)—This collection of notes on the Seventh Eudemian is specially dedicated to the famous Aristotelian scholar Dr. Sussehl, on the fiftieth anniversary of his doctor's degree. It is a production well worthy of the occasion, displaying as it does the critical acumen, accuracy of scholarship, and lucidity of statement which characterize all the publications of its author. Some fifty distinct passages in the selected book are here critically treated; and

although in certain cases the treatment applied may appear unduly hazardous, on the whole it is eminently skilful, and, we may add, unusually cautious for Dr. Jackson. As specimens of his critical ingenuity we adduce a few of his least complicated emendations: *ἄλλος* for *ἀλλ' εἰς* (1234²⁹); *τὸ ἐν λαμβάνουσιν* for *τὸ πρῶτον λ.* (1236²³); *ἐστὶν ἡ Δία τῶν πλείστον φιλία* for *ἐστὶν ἡ διὰ τ. π. φ.* (1236³⁴); *λογίζονται τί ἀντὶ τίνος* for *λ. παντί τίνος* (1243²⁰). Especially happy is the restoration proposed at 1238³⁸ (*διὸ εἴρηκεν Αἰνικός ἐρώμενος τοιαύτ' ἄν, οὐκ ἐρῶν λέγου*), whereby we recover the senarius of a poet of whom nothing but the name survives elsewhere. At 1244⁹ *εἰ γε μὴθὲν δεοῖτό του* is cleverly suggested in place of the meaningless *οὔτε μὴθὲν δεσπότου*: the correction, however, involves a somewhat awkward optative construction, to obviate which one might propose as an equally simple alternative *οὐ γε μὴθὲν ἐνδέεσσι ποτέ του*. At least a dozen of the corrections made in chap. ii. are based upon the paleographical fact observed by Bast that "the letters *φ* with *λ* superposed represent a number of words beginning with *φλ*": in the extensive tract of ambiguity thus opened to view the critic's sagacity has found a happy hunting ground. Some of the notes in this collection have already appeared in the *Journal of Philology*, but the treatment of details is changed in several instances. A convenient "index of passages" is appended.

Platon und die aristotelische Poetik. Von Georg Finsler. (Leipzig, Spingalis.)—Conceiving that the 'Poetics' still contains some dark places which need further elucidation, M. Finsler endeavours in this treatise to supply the necessary light from the writings of Plato. Hence we find here not merely an elaborate paraphrase of several chapters of the 'Poetics,' but also an extensive essay on the development of Plato's views concerning aesthetics. The central problem which engages the author's attention is naturally the Aristotelian theory of *kátharsis*—the theory, that is, which underlies Aristotle's definition of tragic poetry. It is notorious that this theory has long proved a puzzle to the commentators, and even baffled the understanding of such great theorists as Lessing, Goethe, and Hegel. Of late years it seems to have been the fashion to acquiesce in the conclusions arrived at by Bernays in his now classical 'Abhandlungen.' Mr. Bosanquet, for instance, in his standard 'History of Aesthetic' follows Bernays when he makes Aristotle define tragedy as "producing, by (the stimulation of) pity and fear, the alleviating discharge of emotions of that nature." M. Finsler, however, is by no means satisfied that Bernays has said the last word on the subject. While agreeing, of course, that *kátharsis* is a medical term, he refuses to admit that it necessarily implies a "purgative" process; on the contrary, he argues that a better rendering of the term, in this aesthetic context, would be "adjustment" (*Ausgleichung*) rather than "discharge" (*Entladung*). Accordingly, in so far as it is "cathartic," tragedy would supply curative treatment of a homeopathic kind, having for its effect the restoration of a normal condition of soul. Such is, in brief, the amended explanation of *kátharsis* which M. Finsler seeks to establish. For proof of it he relies mainly on Plato's language in such passages as 'Laws' 789 ff., 'Tim.' 89, 'Soph.' 226; and his argument on the whole matter is carefully worked out (pp. 96 ff.) and deserves serious attention. The rest of the treatise is, in point of substance and interest, subsidiary to the discussion of this central problem; but that undue prolixity which is the besetting sin of works of this nature largely serves to obscure the proper relationship of the parts. However, there are a number of minor problems the treatment of which cannot fail to be of interest to Aristotelians, such as the textual difficulties of the passage in the

'Politics' (1340-2) concerning musical *kátharsis*, the relation in which *kátharsis* stands to "the proper pleasure" of tragedy (pp. 116 ff.), and the vexed question as to the position originally occupied by that lost passage regarding *kátharsis* which is alluded to in such a tantalizing way in the 'Politics' (pp. 3 ff.). Taken as a whole, and apart from any opinion as to the value of his solution of the central problem, M. Finsler's book should prove of much service to students of ancient thought, because of the fullness with which it brings out the facts as to the dependence of Aristotle throughout his whole theory of poetic art on the views already set forth by Plato. By taking up point after point in Aristotle's definition, and showing how closely each several notion is derived from a Platonic source, M. Finsler has admirably confirmed and supplemented the results supplied by the previous studies of Belger and Wilamowitz. Step by step modern researches are making it clear to us that Aristotle's debt to his master is very much deeper, in all departments of philosophical theory, than was commonly suspected; or, in other words, that the originality of Aristotle's genius has been immensely overrated. If the view here put forward is at all correct, even the theory of *kátharsis* owed its suggestion to Plato, although it should be observed that it was elaborated, as M. Finsler points out, in opposition to Plato and as a means of controverting his strictures on poetry; for to justify the retention of poetic art as an innocent and useful feature of city life is precisely the object of the elaborate philosophizing of the 'Poetics.'

RECENT VERSE.

Harvest-Tide. By Sir Lewis Morris, Knt. (Kegan Paul & Co.)—Sir Lewis Morris is a happy and satisfied man. He is not "conscious of ever having written a line without believing then that he had something to say which demanded expression, or which he could wish unwritten now." Of a similar boast made on behalf of Shakspeare Ben Jonson observed, "My answer hath been, Would he had blotted a thousand!" This, however, is doubtless an example of what Sir Lewis Morris calls "the carping critic's venal blame"; and as it is dreadful to be thought "venal," it were perhaps best to leave our bard to his complacent reflections "that he has throughout endeavoured to follow the honoured traditions of English poetry," and "that contemporary criticism of verse is seldom of much value towards fixing its permanent position." Certainly the "permanent position" of 'Harvest-Tide' may be safely left to posterity: the public contemporary critic can only register a conviction that in it, as in earlier volumes, Sir Lewis Morris is persistently hymning the obvious. His sentiments are unexceptionable, his meaning is never obscure, and he has a certain metrical facility. But apparently "the honoured traditions of English poetry" bind him irrevocably to the evoking of familiar imagery and the repetition of outworn phrases; and into the higher heavens of immediate song he regularly fails to soar. It is all "vacant chaff well meant for grain." He essays great themes, and does not treat them greatly. Jubilees and the hand-clasp of nations and the shock of hosts stir him to the academic commonplace of the provincial poets' corner. These lines, from an ode 'On an Old Statesman,' are no unfair measure of his achievement:—

Night falls, nor yet we may discern the Dawn;
The sick Age dies, and with it takes the Great,
Like perfect music trembling to its close,
Or some full river smoothing to its end.
Thou art gone from us, O friend,
O precious life that so long served the State;
Thou art gone from us and fled,
To join the undying dead!
Dead! nay, to lie so long breathing reluctant breath,
With fainting forces, is not life but Death;
But at the last to scape Earth's toil and strife,
That is not Death but Life!

Doubtless worse poetry, from a technical point of view, was written about Gladstone. But how

hopelessly this refuses to rise to the level of its high argument! The muse has not had a word to say to it.

The Professor, and other Poems. By Arthur Christopher Benson. (Lane.)—Dignity of temper, an inherited seriousness, accomplishment of rhythm, an intimate and subtle vision of the things of nature—all these one may expect to find in a volume of verse by Mr. A. C. Benson, and not be disappointed. The extreme lyric felicities are not here. The note of Mr. Benson's writing, indeed, is almost always elegiac and not lyric. It is charged with emotion, but not the pure, pulsing, passionate emotion of lyric; rather that close blend of emotion with at least its own quantity of reflection which is peculiarly attractive to scholarly and humane minds, and which is properly called elegiac. He is at his best on a congenial theme in the cycle of short pieces which he calls 'The Professor.' The situation is just sufficiently indicated to give a unity, no more. Into the laborious life, austere and reclusive, of a middle-aged man of science there comes a love, which irradiates it for a season, and passes away, leaving it saddened but enriched. Mr. Benson handles the succession of moods with sympathetic insight and a delicate sense of style. Love and spring! The thing has been said before, but here is a newness in the saying:—

AT THE LABORATORY WINDOW.

O subtle and secret change, that over the world art sped,
Wafted out of the South on the warm wind's delicate wing;
See, my metallic worm uplifts his elated head,
Crawls in his glassy prison, and throbs with the puls of spring.

Ay, there is something more than the metrical march of days!

Life, like a drowsy sleeper, is restless and fain would wake;
And the shy heart leans and listens to hear what the spring wind says,
When the low-hung mist dissolves, and the infinite glories break.

So to my garden I creep, like a truant boy to his game,
Snatching a heightened joy from duty that waits to be done;
And a sudden hope is born, and leaps in my heart like flame,
Watching my springing bulbs, and telling them one by one.

Hooded and muffled close, they creep, like ghosts, to the day,

Parting the wind-dried crust, this is desolate winter bed,
And lo, in the shattered urn, so weathered as old and grey,
A delicate snowdrop pushes, and droops her serious head.

The longer poems which accompany 'The Professor,' and include an ode on Gladstone, intended for recitation at Eton, and some blank verse on Gray, are not equally pleasing. They have the defect of Mr. Benson's qualities, a tendency to frigidity and the academic.

Love's Argument, and other Poems, by Ellen Thorneycroft Fowler (Hodder & Stoughton), is prefaced by an elaborate full-length picture of the author, but its contents are disappointing. Such a title suggests high poesy, and Miss Fowler's verses are rather glib and clever than immortal or inevitable. She has an aptitude for putting things neatly, but a good many versifiers who possess this do not pretend to write poems. In 'A Plea for the Pen' it is asked whether tongue or pen or sword is the greatest. It has been said that the corkscrew is greater than any of the three—not a dignified comment, but one of the sort which Miss Fowler's rather commonplace fluency suggests. Many of the verses here are hymnal, and appeared in the *Sunday at Home* and the *Sunday Magazine*. Doubtless they pleased readers there, but they cannot stand by the side of the great things that have been produced in this line. A wise versifier leaves this difficult kind of writing alone: it demands the highest powers of style, especially as a modern ear does not easily tolerate slack rhymes in hymns—e.g., "heavens" does not rhyme with "ravens."

"Dum-dum," whose verses and parodies entitled *Odd Moments* have reached us from Bombay ('Times of India' Press), is the writer of verse whose case seems most hopeful of those before us. He is clever and can be amusing, but we nearly laid his volume aside in disgust

at its occasional vulgarity. He should recognize, or get some one to tell him, that such a cheap curtailment as "Dante Gab." is not funny. We recommend him to read Calverley, to realize that such things as parodies must be polished; then perhaps he may write not more parodies (for those here are enough to fledge a versifier's wings), but decent light verse. He has, we can see, considerable fluency, and many people have abundance of taste without an idea of producing anything but a carefully ordered mosaic of phrase which no one can read without weariness.

ENGLISH PHILOLOGY.

Outlines of the History of the English Language. By T. N. Toller. (Cambridge, University Press.)—There is no doubt that this book is extremely readable, and well suited to awaken in young students a keen interest in the philology of the English language. Whether it will be found precisely adapted to the requirements of those teachers and learners for whose use "The Cambridge Series for Schools and Training Colleges" is intended is a different question. There is at least the appearance of want of proportion in a manual of the 'History of the English Language' in which ten of the chapters are occupied with Old English and only three with Middle and Modern English together. Probably many teachers will think it best to use Prof. Toller's work in conjunction with some other handbook which treats the later development of the language in a fuller and more systematic manner. As a lucid and accurate account of the lexical and grammatical characteristics of Old English, of the nature of its relationship to the other Germanic tongues, and of the manner in which the development of its vocabulary was influenced by the social conditions of the people and by their intercourse with foreign nations, the book is deserving of the highest praise. In one or two minor respects, however, we think there is room for improvement. Prof. Skeat's list of words of Celtic etymology, compiled many years ago, ought not to have been quoted. It is true that Prof. Toller has been careful to say that many of the instances in that list are uncertain, but this is not sufficient, because Prof. Skeat himself has publicly declared that in the case of most of the words in question he now regards the Celtic derivation as impossible. In Prof. Toller's account of Grimm's Law we are sorry to meet once more with the symbols H A S , A S H , and with the misleading description of the English th and f as "aspirates." The list of words adopted from Latin into Old English fills ten pages. We are not sure that it is desirable in a book of this kind to attempt an exhaustive enumeration of these loan-words: the learner is likely to be unduly impressed by their large number, notwithstanding Prof. Toller's caution as to the real insignificance of the Latin element in Old English. This objection does not apply to the lists of Scandinavian words introduced before the close of the Old English period, because students are generally rather inclined to underestimate than to exaggerate the importance of Danish influence on English. The tenth chapter, which treats of the Old English inflexions both in their relation to modern English grammar and to that of prehistoric Germanic, has some novelty of method, and shows much insight into the difficulties of beginners. In the last three chapters, dealing with the history of Middle and Modern English, there is nothing to criticize except their excessive slightness. The history of a language through eight centuries really cannot be satisfactorily outlined in eighty small pages. The chapters have no titles, but are headed with elaborate summaries, which are repeated in the table of contents; the pages are headed only with the title of the book and the number of the chapter; and there is no index. These deficiencies are

not altogether unimportant from a practical point of view, and it would be worth while to remedy them in any future edition.

Morte Arthure: an Alliterative Poem of the Fourteenth Century. From the Lincoln MS. written by Robert of Thornton. Edited, with Introduction, Notes, and Glossary, by Mary Macleod Banks. (Longmans & Co.)—Mrs. Banks's edition of the 'Morte Arthure' is extremely unambitious in scope. It contains no discussion of the dialectal or metrical phenomena of the poem, and only slight and general references to the questions of sources and authorship. The introduction, which is very brief, treats chiefly of the literary characteristics of the work, which Mrs. Banks has apprehended correctly. The notes are few, and are for the most part concerned with the identification of the places mentioned. The most important feature of the new edition is the text, which is taken directly from the MS. Its most striking difference from that given in Mr. Brock's edition issued by the Early English Text Society consists in certain systematic peculiarities of graphical interpretation. The "curl" at the end of the m and n , and the bar across the ll , which Mr. Brock expands into an italic e , are ignored by Mrs. Banks as being mere unmeaning flourishes. The question is difficult, but we think Mrs. Banks is right. At any rate, it matters very little. The scribes of the fifteenth century were accustomed to add or omit the final e after consonants much at random, and it is possible that Robert of Thornton himself would have been puzzled to say whether he meant the "curl" for a final e or not. A point of more consequence is that Mrs. Banks prints *ound*, *aind*, where Mr. Brock's text has *onnd*, *aind*. In some cases this may be right, but we do not think that forms like *hounde* for *hand* can have been intended by the scribe. As Mrs. Banks has been obliged to admit such combinations as *und* in certain cases, it seems a pity that she has preferred the reading with u where it involves the confusion of words of diverse etymology, such as *land* and *laund*. Of course, the u and n are often so absolutely undistinguishable in fifteenth-century MSS. that an editor has to be guided by his own knowledge of the vocabulary in determining which letter is intended. Mr. Brock's text contained several errors due to the ambiguous form of these letters, which are duly corrected by Mrs. Banks. Apart from these points, the number of new readings in this edition does not exceed a score. Most of them are clearly improvements; some, however, such as "burlyched" for *burlyche* (l. 2239), "fro" for *for* (l. 3297), "as" for *es* (l. 3359), appear intrinsically inferior to the readings of the old edition. This is, of course, no proof that they are not in accordance with the MS.; but we should have been glad of a foot-note to assure us that they are not misprints. We cannot commend such expansions as "Ihesu" and "Spiritu Sancti," though unfortunately many of the editors of the Early English Text Society have adopted them. Mrs. Banks has very properly followed the example of her predecessor in correcting in the text some particularly glaring scribal errors, the reading of the MS. being added at the foot of the page. This should have been done somewhat more frequently: nothing can be urged in defence of forms like "fonode" and "joynenyge." The glossary, while often supplying more correct renderings than that of Mr. Brock, omits many words that certainly need explanation, such as *aschede*, *auhte* (= eight), *brayell*, *marras*, *ryste* (to rest); and we have counted as many as seventeen misprints, among which are "gold" for *foId* (s.v. *wethe*), "deal" for *heal* (s.v. *salue*), "cleweworte" for *clereworte*, "deffure" for *deffuse*, and others equally confusing. There are also several explanations which appear to us incorrect. *Lthen*, a word which, curiously enough, has been overlooked by the lexico-

graphers, is not "hateful, disgusting," but "shaggy" (Old Norse *lœðum*). *Roo*, in lines 3362 and 3374, is not "wheel," but "tranquillity." The word *yaldson*, a term of abuse applied by Gawain to the followers of Modred, is not a "synonym for devil," but appears to mean "son of a mare" (Old Norse *ialda*, Scottish *yauld*); the similar term *doggeson* appears elsewhere in the poem. We suspect that *orfrayez* in line 2142 is not "gold fringes," but "ospreys"; if so, the lines 2142 and 2143 must have been transposed. Mrs. Banks wisely abstains from etymologies in her glossary, but we fear etymological fallacies are suggested in the explanations of *alfyn* and *countere*. Notwithstanding its limited scope and the defects that we have pointed out, this cheap and handy little volume is worth possessing. It is to be hoped that the number of copies printed has not been too large for Mrs. Banks to have an early opportunity of subjecting her work to a thorough revision.

Scandinavian Loan-Words in Middle English. By Erik Björkman. (Halle, Niemeyer.)—This work, which appears in Prof. Morsbach's series of "Studien zur englischen Philologie," is a valuable contribution to English etymology. In the part now published the author formulates the chief phonetic criteria by which Middle-English words of Scandinavian origin may be distinguished from native words and from other Germanic loan-words of equivalent etymology, and applies these tests to the discussion of the words for which Scandinavian origin has been assumed or may be plausibly suspected. As no outline of the plan of the treatise is furnished, we refrain from remarking on the omission of certain points that may, perhaps, find their appropriate place in the second and concluding part, which is announced for publication in a few months. So far as we can judge from the instalment before us, Dr. Björkman's method is sound and is applied with due caution. His definite conclusions nearly always appear to us correct, though we do not always agree with him as to the degree of probability of conjectures admittedly uncertain. The suggestion that *schuilen* may be connected with the Old French *eschailier* ("escalader") would have been better omitted. It is inconvenient that Dr. Björkman so often refers his readers to his own paper in the *Transactions of the Philological Society of Upsala*, 'Zur dialektischen Provenienz der nordischen Lehnwörter in Englischen.' If the passages referred to contain any facts or arguments relevant to the subject, the author ought to have reproduced them, or at least to have given some indication of their tenor. Dr. Björkman's English is good, but the sentences are often too involved to be easy reading. We look forward with great interest to the completion of his work.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Lord Monboddio and some of his Contemporaries, by William Knight, LL.D. (Murray), is a most disappointing book. Prof. Knight cannot have taken the slightest trouble to correct his proofs. On p. 26 he writes: "Monboddio's anticipation of the affinity of Greek with Sanskrit (see his letter to Sir William Innes, 20th June, 1789) was as remarkable as his ignoring of the merit of solid construction which characterises the language of ancient Rome." By "Innes" here is meant Jones, Sir William Jones, who, Prof. Knight rashly says, was "perhaps the first Englishman who mastered Sanskrit," and who had himself two years before anticipated Monboddio in pointing out that Sanskrit, Zend, Greek, Latin, Gothic, and Celtic belong to the same family. Jones owns that but for Wilkins's aid he would never have learnt Sanskrit, and Sir Charles Wilkins writes that his "curiosity was excited about 1778 by the example of my friend Mr. Halhed, to commence the study of the Sanskrit."

Nathaniel Brassey Halhed (1751-1830) was "apparently the first to call public attention to the affinity between Sanskrit words and those of Persian, Arabic, and even of Latin and Greek, an affinity independently detected somewhat earlier by French Jesuits" ('Dictionary of Nat. Biog.,' vol. xxiv. p. 41). "You know," Monboddo writes in 1780, "Mr. Stewart here, our professor of mathematics. He is a young man of excellent genius," &c.; and Prof. Knight calmly tells one in a footnote that this was Matthew Stewart, who was born in 1717, so would now be a "young man" of sixty-three. Of course, Dugald Stewart, Matthew's son and colleague, is intended. On p. 14 one is told that "interesting details of the visit of Dr. Samuel Johnson to Monboddo are to be found in the 'Life of Johnson' written by Boswell": they are not; they are all in Boswell's 'Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides.' Prof. Knight mistells the well-known story of George III.'s remark: "Very odd, very odd! my judges gallop to town on horseback, and my cavalry officers travel singly [snugly] in the mail coach." "In 1764 Burnet was elected Sheriff of Kincardineshire, and in 1764 was made a Lord of Session in succession to Lord Milton." The second date looks suspicious, and proves to be wrong: the true date is 1767. "Halicarnassus" is used as an author's name (cf. Dionysius of Halicarnassus); "Madame Racamier" may be left to the reader's powers of divination; but there should have been something said as to the picture at p. 40, painted by James Edgar, of 'Burns and his [18] Correspondents at Lord Monboddo's House.' James Edgar is vainly sought for in the 'Dictionary of National Biography' and in the Grampian Club volume on the Edgar family; or is the picture merely a modern fancy one? But the worst of the book is that it is a regular 'Hamlet' without Hamlet: there is nothing in it from first to last of the real man, Monboddo.

The History of the Melanesian Mission. By E. S. Armstrong. (Isbister & Co.)—When the memoir of the late Bishop John Selwyn appeared in 1899, the author said in the preface that he had undertaken to trespass as little as possible on the intended 'History of the Melanesian Mission.' He did not do justice to the bishop's elder brother, whose valuable services to the Melanesian Mission were wholly overlooked. Consequently the publication of the 'History of the Melanesian Mission'—issued by the same publishers—was looked forward to by not a few of those interested in the working of that noble enterprise, who have watched its progress from its inception to its present state. There is, possibly, but one man who could be named as fully qualified to write an authoritative history of the mission which was started by George Augustus Selwyn in 1848, fifty-two years ago; and, of course, that man is Dr. Codrington, who refused the bishopric of Melanesia offered to him in 1874. But, "at the request of the families of the three first bishops," Miss E. S. Armstrong, of Sydney, has produced these pages, doubtless to the satisfaction of the ladies who promoted their compilation. Miss Armstrong has divided her subject into six parts. The first period includes the birth and youth of the Melanesian Mission under the first Bishop of New Zealand, for all the islands of what is now known as the Western Pacific were included in his diocese. In 1849 Bishop Selwyn, in a small schooner of but twenty-two tons, the *Undine*, which he navigated himself, visited several of the island groups and brought back some young islanders to be educated as teachers at St. John's College, Auckland, N.Z. In 1850 a new vessel, the *Border Maid*, was supplied by the churches of New South Wales for this special work among the islands, and henceforth regular voyages were undertaken at stated intervals, when those young natives who had been trained returned to their homes and fresh pupils

gathered from new localities. In fact, the history of the mission mainly consists of the relation of these yachting voyages to and fro between the training college and the various islands. In 1854 a schooner of seventy tons, the *Southern Cross*, was provided for the mission by friends in England, and the bishop obtained the co-operation of Mr. Patteson in this labour among the islands and at the training establishment of St. Andrew's College at Kohimarama, at the entrance of Auckland Harbour, to which place the Melanesian scholars were moved from St. John's in 1859. In 1861 Mr. Patteson was consecrated the first Missionary Bishop of Melanesia; and as the *Southern Cross* had been wrecked in 1860, his first business was to obtain another yacht to replace it; but as the second *Southern Cross* did not arrive in New Zealand until 1863, various vessels, the *Zillah*, the *Dunedin*, and the *Sea Breeze*, were employed in the annual cruises from St. Andrew's to the Melanesian Archipelago. The climate of New Zealand, however, was found unsuitable for the tropical Melanesians, and in 1865 a grant of land was obtained from the Government of New South Wales for the purposes of the mission at Norfolk Island, which henceforth became its headquarters:—

"Norfolk Island is six hundred miles nearer the Melanesian islands than New Zealand; and not only so, but the stretch from New Zealand to Norfolk Island is, owing to the direction of the trade winds, the longest and most stormy part of the journey. In New Zealand the school is, of necessity, very limited, as only one journey to and fro with the scholars can be made in the year; whereas in Norfolk Island the number would be practically unlimited, as separate voyages could be made thither from the various groups of islands, each time bringing a party of sixty. The climate of Norfolk Island is not only suited to white and dark races, but its products include the yam, taro, sweet potato, sugar-cane, banana, almond, orange, pineapple, coffee, and maize. Of the usual Melanesian products only cocoa-nut and bread-fruit are wanting. Also, what was far more important than it might at first sight appear, the islanders would not find there the same violent contrast between their own home life and that of the Mission in respect of dress, food, and houses."

After ten years of this work, Bishop Patteson's life was sacrificed at Nukapu, in the Santa Cruz group, in vengeance for five men who had been carried from that island to Fiji, in circumstances which are well related by Miss Armstrong. Dr. Codrington, who now was at the head of the mission, was pressed in vain to accept the bishopric, which was conferred in 1877 on John Selwyn. Meantime, a third and larger *Southern Cross* had been built at Auckland in 1874, rigged as a barquentine, 150 tons burden, and fitted with auxiliary steam power of a rather feeble description. It was in this vessel that most of Bishop John Selwyn's work was performed, for in 1891, when another *Southern Cross* had been built, at a cost of 9,200*l.*, by Forrest & Co., of Wivenhoe, the state of the bishop's health compelled him to resign. Miss Armstrong adds that this last vessel has proved unfit for the work, so now we find the Bishop of Newcastle appealing for funds wherewith to provide a new mission vessel. A sum of 15,000*l.* is required for this purpose, and it is pleasant to learn that nearly half that amount has already been contributed. It is satisfactory to find that, besides Lord Brassey, there are two admirals on the committee of this mission ship fund—Sir James Erskine and Sir N. Bowden Smith—so the best nautical advice will not be wanting for obtaining a really good yacht. At least one of the former vessels has belonged to the Royal Thames Yacht Club, but we are not informed whether the present ship flies the blue burgee and ensign of that club. There is one omission which must be mentioned in Miss Armstrong's book. No notice whatever is taken of the present vicar of Bromfield, the Rev.

William Selwyn, elder brother of the late Bishop of Melanesia, who was for many years secretary-treasurer to the Melanesian Mission Fund, treasurer from January, 1873, to December, 1898, inclusive, twenty-six years, and secretary some five years less, as, when Bishop John Selwyn returned to England permanently, he undertook that work. His brother retained the management of the funds until Bishop Selwyn's death in 1878, when he relinquished his apparently thankless task, rightly thinking it better for the new bishop to manage all business affairs with his own staff. The sketch map of the diocese of Melanesia is wholly inadequate for the requirements of the volume. Additional maps of the districts, such as that of the Florida district, Solomon Islands, published in 'The Island Voyage' for the Melanesian Mission, would help the reader to understand better the various localities mentioned in the text.

The Inferences from Haunted Houses and Haunted Men (Wellby), by the Hon. John Harris, are that bands of villainous hypnotists are about, who cause the disturbances in the 'Alleged Haunting of B— House,' and apparently go to explain even Mrs. Piper. The author ventures "to call attention to the grim smile worn by Charles Kingsley in the portrait which prefaces the large edition of his 'Life and Letters.'" Kingsley also suffered from frequent fits of exhaustion, and on such data we learn that "his life was perhaps shortened by hypnotism." Laurence Oliphant "wrote commonplace, vulgar verse on religious subjects." Hypnotism again; and if this last excuse is sound, hypnotism must be fairly common. For avoiding these terrors "a glass of port wine at eleven in the morning, and tea or breakfast early, are a great help." Also "a nightingale will foil the worst attack." The writer's punctuation is shocking, and his ideas of grammar and arrangement of matter worse. Books like this do more to ridicule the sober and serious investigation of psychical phenomena than pronounced enemies.

From Suffolk Lad to London Merchant (Arrowsmith) is an interesting sketch of the life of James Harvey, for nearly fifty years merchant of the City of London, written by his son, the vicar of Shirehampton. Mr. Harvey came to London by the Suffolk coach in 1832, and got work in a woollen business on old Holborn Hill. Commencing with a salary of 12*l.* a year, he devoted his first savings to pay to his father the bill for his last year's education. Later, with his old schoolfellow Mr. Bartrum, he succeeded to the business. Steps were at once taken to improve the condition of the young men in their employ: they shortened the hours of labour, and were among the first to close at five on Saturdays. Mr. Harvey, unlike most merchants, resolved not to become rich, and never to be worth more than 20,000*l.*; he spent on personal and family expenses only one-third of his income, another third was saved, and the rest devoted to religious and charitable purposes. While member of the Common Council for the Ward of Farringdon Without he did useful work by his attack on certain abuses in the local administration of the poor laws, and although baffled by an order of the Poor Law Board, he took the matter at his own expense to the Queen's Bench, and soon effected the radical reforms needed. Mr. Harvey was a Baptist, as we mentioned at the time of his death, and had some keen battles on religious questions. His portrait by Frank Holl is included. Although it is an excellent likeness, we should have preferred one of him in his younger days. Why should biographies invariably be illustrated with portraits taken late in life?

The Record of the Winter Meetings and Summer Excursions of the Upper Norwood Athenæum, 1899-1900.—The twenty-fourth season of the society has been an interesting

one. Most of the papers read show care in their production, and the illustrations kindly lent by the proprietors of the *Illustrated London News*, the *Graphic*, and others, add considerably to their value. The places visited included, among others, Christ's Hospital, St. Pancras and Battle Bridge, Enfield, Oxford, Faversham, Loughton Camp, Syon Monastery, and Cobham Hall. We are glad to see that the new members are urged to read papers, and we think that the usefulness of the society would be increased if specialists were invited to take part in the gatherings. The 'Record' is carefully edited, as usual, by Mr. J. Stanley and Mr. W. F. Harradence.

WHYTE MELVILLE's unequal but entertaining *Good for Nothing* has been reprinted by Messrs. Ward, Lock & Co. Mr. G. P. Jacobm-Hood is a capable, though not inspired illustrator.

MESSRS. EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE have sent us a capital *Illustrated Bible* of a small, neat size, in which fifty coloured pictures help to show the reader what ploughing with a yoke of oxen, the Roman Forum, &c., are like. The pictures are rather highly coloured, but have been well chosen.—Thanks to Messrs. Gay & Bird, admirers of *The Book of Job* can have that sublime piece of early literature in a very small space.

THE volume of the *Journal of Education* for 1900 is before us. It contains a variety of useful knowledge and some humour. We open on the page in which General Baden-Powell convicts his old master, Dr. Haig Brown, of a false quantity.

WE have on our table *The Companies Act, 1900, with Commentaries*, by P. F. Simonson (E. Wilson).—*The Practical Statutes of the Session 1900*, edited by J. S. Cotton (Cox).—*Saint Antony of Padua*, by Mrs. A. Bell (Sands).—*Baden-Powell of Mafeking*, by J. S. Fletcher (Methuen).—*The Story of H.M.S. Powerful* (H. Marshall).—*Architects of English Literature*, by R. F. Sharp (Sonnenschein).—*A Reading Book in Irish History*, by P. W. Joyce, LL.D. (Longmans).—*An Elementary Geography of Europe*, by L. W. Lyde (Black).—*Exercises in Elementary Algebra*, by A. E. Layng (Blackie).—*A Second Manual of Composition*, by E. H. Lewis (Macmillan).—*Social Service Ideals*, by the Rev. J. P. Smyth (Sands).—*Botany*, by L. H. Bailey (Macmillan).—*The Science of the Emotions*, by M. Dais (Theosophical Publishing Society).—*Essays on the Monetary History of the United States*, by C. J. Bullock (Macmillan).—*Mosquitos and Malaria*, by C. Christy (Low).—*Practical Gas-Fitting*, by P. N. Hasluck (Cassell).—*All Change*, by W. Woollam (Stock).—*Pleasant Half Hours; or, Thoughts for Men*, by the Rev. E. H. Sugden (Partridge).—*Woman*, adapted from the French of M. A. Fouillée by the Rev. T. A. Seed (Greening).—*Shakespeare in Music*, by L. C. Elson (Boston, U.S., Page & Co.).—*Hand in Hand with Dame Nature*, by W. V. Burgess (Manchester, Sherratt & Hughes).—*Northern Georgia Sketches*, by W. N. Harben (Chicago, U.S., McClurg).—*The Duke of Stockbridge*, by E. Bellamy (Gay & Bird).—*Kitty Fagan*, by R. Guthrie (Christian Commonwealth Publishing Co.).—*Songs of the War*, by A. St. John Adecock (R. B. Johnson).—*Titanian, and other Poems*, by A. S. Cripps (Elkin Mathews).—*A Day's Song*, by J. S. Thomson (Toronto, Briggs).—*The Night Express*, *The Flying Man*, by A. Andrew (Simpkin).—*Collected Poems*, by A. Peterson (Philadelphia, Coates).—*Amor Amoris: Sonnets, Songs, and Lyrics*, by W. D. Scott-Moncrieff (Ingram).—*Thoughts on the Collects from Advent to Trinity*, by E. Romanes (Mowbray).—*Hermaphro-Deity*, by E. B. Lyman (Saginaw, Michigan, U.S., Saginaw Printing and Publishing Company).—*and Ricordi d'Infanzia e di Scuola*, by Edmondo de Amicis (Milan, Treves). Among New Editions we have

Memoirs and Correspondence of Lyon Playfair, by W. Reid (Cassell).—*St. Paul's Epistles in Modern English*, translated by F. Fenton (H. Marshall).—*Corneille: The Cid, Tragedy in Five Acts*, translated into English blank verse by W. F. Nokes (Hachette).—*Corneille: The Horatii, Tragedy in Five Acts*, translated into English verse by W. F. Nokes (Hachette).—*Westward Ho!* by C. Kingsley (S.S.U.).—*The White Company*, by A. C. Doyle (Smith & Elder).—*and Rodman the Boat-Steerer*, by L. Becke (Newnes).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

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Addison (D. D.), *The Clergy in American Life and Letters*, cr. 8vo, 5/
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THE LATE BISHOP OF LONDON.

THE intelligence of the death of the Bishop of London has been received with keen regret. Even on Sunday last the idea was prevalent that his vigorous constitution would enable him to recover, so general was the reluctance to accept the inevitable and to face the unwelcome fact that the most brilliant of the Anglican ecclesiastics of our day was passing from among us.

Mandell Creighton's career was, it need hardly be said, one of singular and rapid success. Although not educated at any one of the celebrated public schools, he speedily made his mark at Oxford, following up a distinguished degree by vigorous and stimulating work as a lecturer and tutor, so that general surprise was expressed when he accepted a college living and retired to Northumberland; yet probably he felt that college and university business was consuming so much of his leisure that he had little to spare for the historical studies that had already become his favourite pursuit. At any rate, at Embleton he brought out in rapid succession his 'Age of Elizabeth,' his 'Life of Simon de Montfort,' and his 'Primer of English History.' At the same time he looked diligently after his parish, took pupils, and, feeling a keen interest in the struggle between Russia and the Turks, appeared at Liberal meetings and made himself known throughout the country as a clear thinker and fluent speaker. Yet his transfer to the Dixie Professorship of Ecclesiastical History came exactly at the right time—when he had pretty well exhausted the possibilities of a rural vicarage and his pursuits called for a wider command of books than the library of a country clergyman could afford. At Cambridge he seemed altogether in his right element: he proved an excellent lecturer, he contributed much to the building up of a school of history in the university, and by the foundation of the *English Historical Review* largely stimulated the interest in his favourite study throughout the kingdom.

Again he excited considerable surprise by accepting the bishopric of Peterborough, thus bringing to an untimely end, as he must have foreseen, his 'History of the Papacy during the Reformation,' which he had resolved should be the chief work of his life. Many of his friends regretted that he thus abandoned the academic career for which he seemed peculiarly fitted, yet upon the whole

he was probably happier when brought in contact with the difficulties and problems of the present. With all his fondness for study, he had never been a Dryasdust; he took a keen interest in his fellow-men, and liked to watch, with a quiet smile on his face, their thoughts and feelings, their aspirations and aversions, their virtues and their weaknesses. At Peterborough he did not show himself a great administrator, but he excited among clergy and laity alike a feeling of personal attachment that proved even more effectual than governing capacity in securing the harmony of the diocese. His translation to London called him to a wider and stormier scene, and soon after his installation angry partisans appeared bent on provoking a crisis. Yet his serenity of judgment, his sympathy with different phases of thought, his tact and his genuine desire for peace, calmed troubled spirits in a way that would hardly have been possible for a mere theologian. He was not a heaven-born orator, but he was a clear and thoughtful preacher; his addresses at public meetings were excellent, and he was an admirable after-dinner speaker, perhaps most admirable when he spoke on the spur of the moment. Sometimes he was too subtle for his audience, and the playful banter which was the expression of an intellect that saw all sides of a question disturbed many who took it for satire directed against themselves. Yet in the four years of his episcopate he largely dissipated the distrust of those who at first failed to understand him. Unfortunately, he took small care of his health, and, full of interest in his surroundings, thought little of husbanding his strength. Nature in vain gave him several warnings that his capacities were limited, and he has died in the prime of his powers, the victim of excessive exertion, leaving no one who can adequately supply his place.

DR. CREIGHTON AS A CLASS TEACHER.

It was inevitable that attention these last days should have been drawn to the later rather than the earlier phases of Dr. Creighton's career. But, as one who knew him both as bishop and as professor, perhaps I may be allowed to express something of what his pupils owed to him as a teacher. That brilliant conversational gift which gave him such social power was a most effective instrument in the hands of the professor. I shall never forget the impression made upon me at his conversation class. It taught me more than any other teacher or system I can call to mind. It was a conversation class, not a mere mode of delivering considered pronouncements like that of Sir John Seeley. There was plenty of give and take in the room at Emmanuel. For Creighton encouraged us to talk; he loved to draw men out, and though, of course, he talked more than his pupils, they never felt that he merely wanted to air his own views or would prevent them giving utterance to their notions, however crude. And he never told us we were crude, only he made us feel it. A man might come to that class puffed up with a knowledge unaware of its own shallowness; he was apt to go away convinced of his colossal ignorance and of the need of hard work if he would remove it. Or a dialectically minded youth, proud of his skill, might "put on the gloves" with his teacher on some point of ethics or philosophy or politics. The professor always listened. And then came the fun. He would question him with a certain tender irony (there was often tenderness in his irony), and turn him, or rather make him turn himself, inside out. Then, with a mastery of facts and a subtlety of dialectic that seemed almost superhuman, he would scientifically lay the hapless combatant out and turn to his neighbour, almost asking "Next, please?" He met us on equal terms (or it seemed so), and the result was inevitable. He

showed us that neither our knowledge nor our cleverness was worth boasting of; and there was always the added inspiration to make them worthy enough to need no boasting. He was no flatterer, and, though always kind, could be severe; and he taught us to be severe to ourselves; for though he loved paradox, he had nothing but contempt for quackery, and would soon make mincemeat of the youth who mistook bad epigram for good argument. He showed us that facility might be fatal, for it will lead us, if we do not take care, into intellectual insincerity; and that is the unpardonable sin. He made us face our mental weaknesses as public-school life makes men face bodily timidity; he showed that hardness to ourselves in mind no less than body is a large part of manliness. And this by a method so natural that it seemed almost unconscious. For he did not preach or exhort; he only talked, at times eloquently enough. He was always genial, tolerant, never losing his temper or his head, never merely authoritative or dogmatic, of course never pompous or professorial. He made us realize what a force the cultivated intellect may be when guided by a strong will, and that without any "striving or crying." No man more completely fulfilled Newman's ideal of a gentleman:—

"If he engages in controversy of any kind, his disciplined intellect preserves him from the blundering discourtesy of better, perhaps, but less educated minds, who, like blunt weapons, tear and hack instead of cutting clean, mistake the point in argument, misconceive their adversary, and leave the question more involved than they found it. He may be right or wrong in his opinion, but he is too clear-headed to be unjust. He is as simple as he is forcible, and as brief as he is decisive. He throws himself into the minds of his opponents, he accounts for their mistakes. Nowhere shall we find greater candour, consideration, indulgence."

Perhaps the most abiding result of these classes was the sense that common notions are not necessarily true ones, that nothing must be accepted on trust, that it is wrong to let oneself be deceived by claptrap, and that it is easy. Above all, it was the man who impressed us, with his multifarious culture, his vivid interest, his depth of power. He never talked to me for three minutes without showing me some aspect of a question not before apprehended. He never made one talk to him without showing that he felt the worth of individuality, and in a way its sacredness, beneath all youthful pettiness and conceit and ignorance. For no man ever believed more in the power of the individual will than Mandell Creighton.

Christian and yet humanist (as all the greatest Christians have been), he gave us the enduring lesson of himself. But he did more than reveal himself to us; he revealed us to ourselves, and made us determine to become something different. That is why to some of us he was the "master light of all our day." It seems dark indeed, now that "the night is come."

J. N. F.

"FIRE OUT" IN LITERARY ENGLISH.

THE verb "to fire out" (in the metaphorical sense of "expel violently") has been attracting attention in the public press during the past few weeks. Its future in literary English hangs for the moment in the balance. An impression is abroad that it is a vulgarism, and that the favourable notice lately extended to it by British journalists and others is, if taken seriously, to be treated as a new illustration of the not unfamiliar process by which a literary language occasionally seeks refreshment by the absorption of a coarse vulgarism. Writers of high repute in the press are undecided as to what attitude to assume towards the expression. They recognize its usefulness, but when they condescend to employ the questionable words they enclose them apologetically in inverted commas. I noticed very

recently that by a strange coincidence leader-writers in both the *Times* and the *Spectator*—obviously different persons—within a day or two of one another applied the words "fired out" (in inverted commas) to the treatment which Mr. Healy lately experienced at the hands of his colleagues of the Irish Parliamentary party.

Simultaneously our classical dramatist Mr. Stephen Phillips, in his new play of "Herod," has employed the same expression, although in the somewhat different and simpler sense of expelling by means of a literal application of fire. Mr. Phillips makes his hero exclaim (without inverted commas):—

Am I that Herod
That, ere the beard was on me, burned up cities,
That fired the robbers out of Galilee?

Critics have raised objection to this last line, on the ground that "fire out," even in its literal meaning of driving out by means of fire, is an objectionable vulgarism of low American birth.

It is not difficult to prove historically that the expression "fire out," whether used in the metaphorical sense of "expel violently" or in the literal sense of "drive out by means of fire," is a perfectly polite term, the use of which is amply justified by literary precedent. It is, in fact, in its literal and metaphorical sense alike, a fragment of classical English which by some mischance has temporarily fallen from its high estate. It was for a long period out of use in this country altogether. In America it has fared even worse. There, after suffering neglect in respectable speech, it was on its metaphorical side lately restored to pristine vigour by the frequenters of bar saloons. But happily its season of disgrace is now likely to end.

In its literal meaning of driving out by applying fire, "fire out" was freely used by men of letters down to the time of Swift. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries its cognate usage in the metaphorical sense of expelling violently (where no actual application of fire was in question) was only a little less common. Shakespeare lent his supreme authority to both the literal and metaphorical usages. King Lear adopts the literal usage when he says of his reconciliation with Cordelia:—

He that parts us shall bring a brand from heaven
And fire us hence like foxes.

At the same time Shakespeare in Sonnet cxliv. employed "fire out" metaphorically:—

Yet this shall I ne'er know, but live in doubt,
Till my bad angel fire my good one out.

Similarly, Shakespeare's contemporary Edward Guilpin, in his "Skialetheia" of 1598 (ed. Grosart, p. 17), unhesitatingly used "fire out" in its metaphorical sense when he wrote in all seriousness:—

But I'll be loath (wench) to be fired out.

The 'New English Dictionary' fully illustrates the literal usage of "fire out" by literary men between 1530 and 1728, but, strange to say, it wholly ignores the metaphorical usage of the expression in literary English. The 'New English Dictionary,' indeed, assumes that "fire out" in the metaphorical sense of eject is wholly a modern invention of American bar-saloon slang, and that it was not set on record in print before 1885, when the *Free Press* of Milner, Dakota, recommended that certain pupils should be "fired out" of a school. But the quotations from Shakespeare's sonnet and Guilpin's "Skialetheia" nearly three centuries earlier destroy the pretension to signal a modernity that has been set up in behalf of the metaphorical usage of the words. In the bar-saloons of the Far West the verb *fire* for "eject" may have found special claims to favour from its liability to be mistaken for a synonym of "shoot," but history proves its sense of "eject" to be derived exclusively from the associated meaning of "burning," a mode of action which can be most easily turned to purposes of expulsion.

The expression "fire out," in both its literal and metaphorical aspects, is picturesque as well as forcible and convenient, and there can be no rational objection to the reinstatement of both its ancient usages in literary English.

SIDNEY LEE.

CHANCELLOR CHRISTIE.

WE briefly announced last week the death of Mr. Richard Copley Christie, an accomplished writer and an erudite bibliophile, which took place at Ribsden, Windlesham, Surrey, on the 9th inst. Born on July 22nd, 1830, at Lenton, Notts, the second son of Lorenzo Christie, of Edale, Derbyshire, and Ann, daughter of Isaac Bayley, of Lenton Sands, he was educated at Lincoln College, Oxford, under Mark Pattison, matriculating April, 1849, proceeding B.A. 1853 and M.A. 1855, and taking a First Class in Law and History. At Owens College, Manchester, he was Professor of History from 1854 to 1866, and of Political Economy from 1855 to 1866, and was made in 1895 Hon. LL.D. of Victoria University. In Owens College he took keen interest, erecting for it the buildings known as the Christie Library, in which, it is understood, his fine collection of books will permanently rest. Two or three years ago he bequeathed to it 50,000l., his share of the balance of the estate of the late Sir Joseph Whitworth, Mr. Christie having been chairman of the Sir Joseph Whitworth Company, Limited.

Mr. Christie was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, June 6th, 1857, and, on the nomination of Bishop Fraser, became in 1872 Chancellor of the Diocese of Manchester, an appointment he resigned when he came in 1893 to reside near London. As Chancellor he was, according to his own statement, one of the few laymen in the Church of England called on occasionally to preach. Amongst other appointments he was President of the Chetham Society since 1884; of the Record Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, 1883-95; and of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, 1889. He was also a governor of Owens College and of the Royal Holloway College. Besides contributing to the *Quarterly Review*, *Macmillan's Magazine*, *Le Livre Moderne*—in which he did not, we believe, write, as has been stated, in French—the *Athenæum*, *Notes and Queries*, and other periodicals, he published in 1885 'Old Church and School Libraries of Lancashire'; edited vol. ii. pt. ii. of the 'Diary and Correspondence of Dr. John Worthington,' 1886 (followed in 1888 by a bibliography of his writings), and 'Annales Cestrienses,' 1887; and issued to the Roxburghe Club, of which he was a member, 'The Letters of Sir Thomas Copley.' With the publication in 1880 of his 'Etienne Dolet, the Martyr of the Renaissance,' he substituted for what was to some extent a local fame a European reputation. This work, reprinted in 1899, was translated into French in 1886, and circulated by the French Government among provincial libraries. It is a work of monumental erudition, and has replaced all other lives of the great printer.

Mr. Christie's library, though not, so far as we recall, quite in impeccable condition, is very rich, especially in French writers and humanists of the Renaissance. In the productions of Dolet's press it is the largest in the kingdom, and contains many works not to be found in the Bibliothèque Nationale. It includes a large number of Aldines and an unmatched collection of editions of Horace, together with some fine French and Italian bindings. Though little seen in public of recent years, Mr. Christie was glad to receive visitors who came with a scholarly purpose, and was one of the most helpful of hosts and associates.

THE THEORIES AS TO HUCHOWN.

January 14th, 1901.

MUCH as I should have preferred not to strike in just at present, it seems needed. Large concession is willingly made to the argument that the dialect of, e.g., 'Morte Arthure' is not distinctively Scottish. I go so far as to say that neither is the spirit of the poems at all Scottish, in the sense of revealing national bias. To this extent, therefore, the fair-minded Scot will keep open ear for reasons (whether Oxonian, Northumbrian, Cumbrian, or English at large) for doubt of the Scottish origin of this great poet, a glory of the fourteenth century. Believing that his works are so interlinked as to disclose their own sequence and attest the width of the author's range, I for one, after much study, am convinced that Huchown was great enough and good enough even to have been a Fellow of Oriel and the grandson of a Northumbrian combined, without lessening by a cubit his poetic stature! But we are not concerned with national predilections: a problem of direct literary evidence is on the table. Wyntoun, circa 1420, referred, in a parenthesis only, to "Huchown off the Awle Ryale" (v. 4290-4344), citing three of his works. This reference was made in a manner involving the assumption that Wyntoun's Scottish readers would know who Huchown was, and that they had acquaintance with his works. Importance hitherto unnoticed attaches to Wyntoun's criticism of 'Morte Arthure' in suggesting that "Procurator" in lieu of "Emperor" would have "grevyd the cadens." This means that the poet wrote in alliteration—at any rate, something not rhyme, and almost certainly alliteration, was the technical sense of "cadence" (see Prof. Horstman's 'Rolle of Hampole,' ii. 345), as evinced by Gower's mention in the 'Confessio' (Pauli, ii. 82) "of rime and of cadence," and by Chaucer's contrast in the 'House of Fame,' l. 623:—

In ryme or elles in cadence.

Dunbar, mourning the "Makar's" gone before, catalogued three Englishmen—Chaucer, Lydgate, and Gower—followed next by three Scots:—

The gude Syr Hew of Eglintoun
And eik Heryot and Wyntoun
He hes tane out of this cuntre.
Timor mortis conturbat me.

In Scottish annals from the beginning of the thirteenth century down to 1500 there was only one Sir Hugh of Eglintoun. His birth may have been as early as c. 1300, and cannot well have been later than c. 1325, as he had a wife in 1348. He died in or before the spring of 1377, leaving no son. Of his nephew John or that seion's fortunes nothing is known but the name. One Sir Hugh only is on record, and he—*teste* Dunbar, who places him in order anterior to Wyntoun—was a poet.

That "Huchown" was the dignified and normal vernacular shape of Hugo in the early fifteenth century is, I gather from Mr. Bradley's last letter, no longer disputed. See 'Registrum Magni Sigilli, 1424-1513,' vol. ii. No. 178, 2612; 'Exchequer Rolls,' i. 567, 569; 'Duke of Hamilton's MSS.' (Hist. MSS. Com.), 25-27; John Anderson's 'Family of Frisell or Fraser,' 56-64; 'Extracta e Variis Croniciis,' 250; 'Acta Auditorum,' 12. The Lords of Lovat were called Huchon in 1416, Huchoune in 1429, Hew in 1471. Perhaps my friend the Rev. John Anderson has better instances. The inference of critics since the beginning of the century just ended was consistently that Wyntoun's Huchown was Dunbar's Sir Hugh.

Against this hundred-year-old conclusion we have now a claim which, with all respect for its distinguished proposer, must be reckoned "full thin." Wyntoun's reference, brief as it is, demands many particulars to fit the applicant to stand in Huchown's shoes: (1) "Awle Ryale" is to be explained; (2) the

applicant must be a known person and (3) a poet, with works (4) known in Scotland before 1420 as (5) exceptional in style and (6) written in "cadence"; (7) his lifetime must correspond; and (8) the epithet of the "Awle Ryale" must be justified. Besides, from the admitted poems two or three other postulates come: (9) The poet must have been, if not a lawyer, at least acquainted with Fleta ('Morte Arthure,' 445-464; Fleta, 45-46), as well as accomplished (10) in the code of courtliness, (11) in sea terms and ways, and (12) in matters of the chase.

To satisfy these requirements Mr. Bradley offers what? The solitary explanation, left meantime without vouchers of due date, that the descriptive adjunct "Awle Ryale" might be the result of a pseudo-etymology of Oriel! He puts forward no man, but, as it were, advertises that a poet—please God an Englishman—is wanted. The real man is secure enough in Sir Hugh of Eglintoun. (1) "Aula Regis" and "Kingis Hall" were Scottish facts; (2) Sir Hugh was a public man, (3) accredited as a poet by the skilled evidence of Dunbar. (4) The works claimed were known and quoted by Wyntoun and others, being, of course, (5) of special style and (6) alliterative. (7) Sir Hugh's lifetime corresponds with the period of the poems, and (8) his entire public career associates him with the "Aula Regis" in its courtly, legal, administrative, and geographical aspects. (9) His intimate relation to Robert, the High Steward of Scotland, afterwards King Robert II., and his judicial duty as a Justiciar of Scotland make his seat in the King's Hall a matter of course and his use of Fleta most reasonable; while (10) his constant attendances on David II. and Robert II., coupled with varied official functions, gave the necessary acquaintance with courtly etiquette. (11) Robert was fond of Bute and the Clyde, and kept his yacht ('Exch. Rolls,' iii. 667, &c.), and had appointed his courtier brother-in-law chamberlain of Irvine, then a chief seaport of the west. (12) Robert was also a keen huntsman ('Liber Pluscardensis,' i. p. 311; 'Exch. Rolls,' vol. ii. pref. lxxxiv), and duty as well as pleasure doubtless gave Sir Hugh his knowledge of the laws of sylvan sport.

Of "Awle Ryale," "Aula Regis," and "Aula Regia" I have written at some length in the *Glasgow Herald* of January 5th, and now merely cite and extend the authorities there referred to (Bracton, 105b; Fleta, 66 et seq.; Blackstone; John Millar's 'English Government'; Gilbert Stuart's 'History of Scotland,' second edition, 1784, vol. ii., appx. 33, 41, 82, 106). "Aula," "aula regis," and "aula domini regis," as substantial royal facts under Alexander III., Robert the Bruce, David II., and Robert II., are vouched by 'Exch. Rolls,' i. 18, 253, 360; ii. 472. The "Kingis Haw" was provided for by law and statute ('Acts Parl. Scotland,' i. 710; 'Lord High Treasurer's Accounts,' i. 174, 182, 185). Nay, so far did the institution go that when James IV. was under canvas there was a special tent cylept the "Kingis Hall" ('Treasurer's Accounts,' i. 293, 346). Yet more serviceable as institutional evidence is the use of the "aula domini nostri Regis" as a legal tribunal ('Acts Parl. Scot.,' i. 508), a fact which analogy made it necessary to infer, though actual examples are rare. With this complex institution Sir Hugh was bound up from 1358 until the end of 1376. He attended David II. in London in 1358, and his frequent visits to England subsequently, at a time when, as Wyntoun (viii. 7050) tells us, there was "rycht gret specialte" between David II. and Edward III., may perhaps have had a larger meaning for English literature than some of us yet wot of. On the accession of Robert II. Sir Hugh at once appears on the recently established and peculiarly select Privy Council ('Acts Parl.,' i. 547; see also 504), and the nomination shortly afterwards of John Barbour

as an auditor *ad hoc* in Exchequer along with him introduces a pleasing and suggestive association of "rime" and "cadence." As husband of the half-sister of the king, Sir Hugh followed the Court wherever it sat, and was, not improbably, of the royal household. Mr. Bradley, I fear, can hardly hope that his advertisement will ever bring him a person so suitable as Sir Hugh to claim connexion with the Awle Ryale.

In Kelham's dictionary of old law French occurs the entry "*Aule, a hall.*" Alliterative poems reflecting French influence from every facet give such locutions as "*roy reall*" and "*mounte ryalle.*" At Scone the *sedes regia* is named in 1371 ('*Acts Parl. Scot.*' i. 545), and again referred to in 1363 as the "*Siege roial*" in a French indenture between Edward III. and David II. ('*Acts Parl. Scot.*' i. 493). To "*Awle Ryale*," as perhaps a French form of the legal "*Aula Regia*," the transition is easy by the corridors of law which Sir Hugh adorned, and which Wyntoun, with his notarial instincts, probably frequented too.

One word "*ere I go*" on the language of the poems, a subject not yet admitting of authoritative deliverance by present-day philology. The elementary question is, What does even so accomplished a philologist as Mr. Bradley know about the dialect of the courtly circle of Scotland under Robert the Bruce and David II.? What of the later '*Kingis Quair*'? What of the chivalric poems, like '*Sir Isumbras*,' ascribed to "*Rate*," and claimed with much reasonableness by my friend Mr. J. T. T. Brown for the confessor of James I.? What of '*Lancelot of the Laik*'? These surely are neither so uniform nor so Scottish that any one can be definite about their dialect. Far less is there room for absolute pronouncement on the character of speech to be expected from an alliterative poet in Scotland whose boyhood was spent in the reign of Robert the Bruce, and who was not, like Barbour and Wyntoun, of the commons, but of the Court, at a time of external and internal commotion under David II., when English power and intrigue well-nigh upset—did, indeed, for a time vicariously hold—the Scottish throne.

GEO. NELSON.

DR. MOSES COIT TYLER.

PROF. TYLER, who died at Ithaca, New York, on December 28th, was born in Griswold, Connecticut, in 1835, and graduated at Yale College in 1857. He studied theology at Andover Seminary, and for a time was minister of a Congregational (Independent) society in Poughkeepsie, New York, but resigned in 1862, and passed some years in London. He studied English literature, but rarely printed anything, though his friends preserve carefully a little poem he circulated among them, '*The Omnibus*,' giving impressions of London as seen from the top of that vehicle. In 1867 he was appointed Professor of the English Language and Literature in the State University of Michigan, where his high reputation as a scholar and educator was established. He published a valuable '*Manual of English Literature*,' and also '*Glimpses of England*.' Meantime he devoted himself to the critical study of American history, and in 1881 accepted an appointment to the Chair of American History in Cornell University, New York. In the same year he took orders. Prof. Tyler's '*Life of Patrick Henry*' is one of the best of the "*American Statesmen*" series; '*The Brawnville Papers*' and '*Three Men of Letters*' are also marked by the care and literary art which characterize all of his works; but his greatest service is represented by his '*History of American Literature during the Colonial Period, 1606-1765*,' and '*The Literary History of the American Revolution*.' It was Prof. Tyler's intention to continue his history of American literature to the year 1859, and it

is to be hoped that this work was sufficiently advanced to be published. His numerous contributions to reviews and magazines will no doubt be collected.

The death of Prof. Tyler, which occurred after a brief illness, is a heavy loss to Cornell University, and, indeed, to a very large circle of literary friends throughout the country. He was universally honoured. By those who knew him personally he was much beloved. Besides the charm of his handsome presence, there were in him a simplicity, candour, modesty, a perpetual cheerfulness, and a sweetness of spirit pervading his wit and humour, which made him attractive to all. Unambitious and domestic, he diffused encouragement everywhere.

THE INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION OF HEAD MASTERS.

SINCE its foundation in 1891 this Association has done, as Dr. Scott said on being re-elected to the honorary secretaryship, "ten years' hard labour." It is not surprising that its merits have been widely recognized; twice during these ten years the Government has honoured the Association by appointments given to its president, first by electing Dr. Wormell on the Bryce Commission, and, secondly, by appointing Dr. Gow to the Consultative Committee.

Dr. Gow, at the Guildhall meeting on January 9th, first referred to the death of the Rev. A. R. Vardy. He went on to express his belief that the demand for education will shortly outstrip the supply. Already men teachers are diminishing in quantity and quality, and are likely to diminish more when training is made compulsory. His suggestion was that women teachers will in the near future be more and more employed in secondary schools.

The first business before the meeting was a series of resolutions of Council on local authorities. These, as having already been passed and in most cases reaffirmed by the Association, were put from the chair. The resolution in favour of one local authority for education of all kinds—secondary, elementary, and technological—was, perhaps, the most important of a list too long to print in this account. But as the measure which he promised for next session contemplates simply the extension of the powers of the County Council technical instruction committees, and does not go the length of establishing the single authority, it is evident that the Government has in mind the kind of difficulties which were strongly put by Mr. J. J. Findlay. He urged that the experience of England would probably be the same as that of Wales, where after ten years the county governing bodies are hardly yet in sympathy with secondary education. It would be dangerous to-day to put elementary and secondary education under one authority, because the labour party would most probably capture the secondary schools. He regarded it as wiser to give the authorities time to grow proud of their secondary work: we should look for our single educational authorities about 1910.

Mr. Keeling (Bradford) next moved "that this Association approves the minute of the Board of Education establishing higher elementary schools, as containing the initial conditions for a satisfactory differentiation of primary from secondary schools under an organized system of secondary education."

On this subject there was one of the keenest debates of this year's meeting. The minute referred to was issued last April, as a result of much deliberation and the joint meeting of representatives of the I.A.H.M. and of the head masters of higher-grade schools. The latter now profess to have been betrayed by the I.A.H.M., but the Incorporated Association finds the minute to be substantially in accord with the joint memorandum.

The minute is, indeed, a great help towards the much-needed differentiation of secondary and primary schools, chiefly by the age limit, which is now fixed at fifteen for higher elementary schools. The Union of Head Teachers has protested against "children being turned out of schools" at this age; but this limit was agreed to by the higher-grade representatives, and it is necessary. The Government cannot be charged with curtailing the advanced education of the industrial classes. Very few, as a fact, remain after the age of fifteen; and for the few scholarships are already given which might, with a penny rate, easily be increased to an adequate extent. Differentiation cannot be made by curricula; it must be by age. After Mr. R. S. Laffan had pointed out that several School Boards were attempting to set up a scheme of free secondary education, and a letter from Mr. Thornton, secretary of the higher-grade teachers, had been read, in which he expressed surprise that the I.A.H.M. had supported the minute, the motion of Mr. Keeling was carried.

A series of resolutions on the tenure of masterships in secondary schools is important, as showing that the Assistant Masters' Association is beginning to make itself felt. We hear that a conference between the I.A.H.M. and the A.M.A. on the subject of tenure is likely to be held before long. Meanwhile it is highly satisfactory that, by passing these resolutions *en bloc*, the general meeting of the head masters provided something definite to proceed upon when they meet the champions of the assistants. We print these resolutions, because it is likely that they will be the subject of much discussion during this year:—

1. "That, in the absence of special agreement, notice terminating the engagement of an assistant master should expire at the end of a term, and should be given not later than seven days from the beginning of the term at the end of which it expires.
2. "That it conduces to the efficiency of schools that the head master should have the sole power both of appointing and dismissing assistant masters.
3. "That it should be the duty of the head master to report, at the next meeting of the governors, each change on the staff.
4. "That an assistant master summarily dismissed for misconduct should have no appeal save to a law court.
5. "That an assistant master dismissed with notice should have the right of making, within six months after receiving notice, a written presentment of his case to the governing body of the school.
6. "That provision should be made by which, on the motion of the governing body, an official inquiry should be held by or on behalf of the Board of Education, and the result thereof should be formally communicated to the parties concerned and the governing body."

The main points criticized were the assertion that was added to (1) that a term's notice is the custom of the profession, and the desirability of allowing an assistant, after dismissal with notice, to remain at school in strained relations with his chief, so as to make a written presentment of his case to the governing body.

The next subject, the registration of teachers, was introduced by Prof. Withers. This matter, which was initiated, we believe, by the College of Preceptors, and has now been vigorously discussed for a generation, is likely to be settled during the first decade of the twentieth century. The Board of Education Act does not propose or consider any differentiation of teachers on the register, and Prof. Withers asked the Association to declare that the conditions for admission to the register should be stringent. Culture (as shown by a degree), the theory and practice of teaching (as evidenced by a certificate and two years' probation in an approved school)—these are the minimum qualifications to be required of the future generation of teachers. If elementary teachers can find their way on to the register under these conditions, they will be heartily welcomed there. Whether the qualifications

for the register should be high or low has been all along a keenly debated point, and there was considerable difference of opinion among head masters. The resolution on the subject which was finally agreed to proposed

"that on and after April 1st, 1905, those seeking admission to the register of teachers as qualified to teach in secondary schools should (1) be graduates of a British university, or possess a diploma accepted by the Consultative Committee as equivalent to a pass degree; (2) hold a certificate, approved by the Committee, of training in the theory and practice of education; and (3) give proof of two years' efficient service in a school approved for the purpose."

On resuming business on January 10th, the meeting received and adopted the various reports of committees of the Council. Space forbids here even the briefest digest of these reports. Among the important recommendations as to schools of science which the meeting adopted were the following:—

"That the minimum time to be allotted to literature and language work be raised by two hours.

"That manual instruction be not made compulsory in the case of secondary schools.

"That a school of science need not contain more than fifteen pupils."

Important recommendations were also made and adopted as to schools in relation to national defence, and it was resolved that the Association should take part in a deputation to the War Office on that subject.

An amusing speech by Mr. A. F. Rutty (Leatherhead), which was characterized by a charming frankness, induced the meeting to decide that more attention should be paid to the teaching of the mother tongue in secondary schools, especially in the direction of literature as distinguished from grammar and composition. The Oxford and Cambridge local examinations in their bearings on the curricula of secondary schools were discussed at some length on a motion by Mr. A. Pryce, who urged that as at present constituted they were not an adequate basis for secondary education. He wished it to be made compulsory for preliminary and junior candidates to pass in one language other than English. Finally, however, the Council was asked to consider whether the minimum number of compulsory subjects in the junior examination should be increased. In conclusion, Dr. R. P. Scott carried an amended resolution:—

"That a survey of all schools other than elementary schools in England should be conducted by the State, provided that no delay in legislation be caused thereby."

A statistical survey of schools had been demanded by the Head Masters' Conference at Bradfield, on the motion of Canon Bell, and it cannot be doubted that the Board of Education would do wisely to set about such a preliminary to any sound system of inspection without delay.

At the banquet at Fishmongers' Hall, on the evening of January 10th, Sir John Gorst announced that the Government intended to table a Bill enabling the county technical instruction committees, properly infused with experts, to deal with secondary education. He thought that the next step would be to put all degrees of education under unified local authorities.

Literary Gossip.

THE lamented Bishop of London was at one time a pretty frequent contributor to this journal. He commenced his contributions with a review in August, 1878, of the late Mr. Cotter Morison's monograph on Gibbon; they closed with a review in January, 1891, of Aubrey Moore's posthumous 'Lectures and Papers on the Reformation' and two other volumes on the same subject. Many good things said by Dr. Creighton have been quoted in the

papers, but we have not seen the *obiter dictum* attributed to him concerning Oxford and Cambridge men, that the first went about as if the world belonged to them, the second as if they did not care to whom it belonged.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. will publish next week a further volume, the sixth, of the "Historical Series for Bible Students" which they are issuing in this country by arrangement with Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons in America. The new book, 'Christianity in the Apostolic Age,' is from the pen of Prof. George T. Purves.

In the *Cornhill* for February Mr. Weyman continues 'Count Hannibal,' and Dr. Fitchett devotes his instalment of 'The Tale of the Great Mutiny' to the massacres at Delhi. Mrs. Richmond Ritchie contributes a 'Blackstick Paper' on St. Andrews, and under the title 'Wife and Husband' appear two short poems written many years ago. In 'Lawful Pleasures' Mr. George M. Smith relates his experiences as defendant in past and gone libel actions. Sir Herbert Maxwell brings 'More Light on St. Helena' to a conclusion; and the Rev. Roland Allen, who has already written in the magazine on the siege of the Pekin Legations, points out certain conclusions which may be drawn from that memorable incident. There is a short story by Mr. George Gissing entitled 'The Scrupulous Father.' "Anglo-Africanus" describes his experiences with a party of Boers on board a German mail-boat, and 'A Londoner's Log-Book' retails some of the gossip, political and social, of the month.

HIGH prices for rare books have become so general that they are now taken as a matter of course. But a record was reached a day or two ago, when the truly magnificent 'Evangelia Quatuor,' which once belonged to the Abbey of Lindau, was sold for the Earl of Ashburnham by Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge to a private purchaser for 10,000*l*. The MS. is more remarkable on account of the elaborate binding, with its setting of over three hundred and fifty precious stones, than as a specimen of the art of illumination. Indeed, as an example of the goldsmiths' art of the eighth or ninth century the volume is one of the most perfect in existence. We understand that it will no longer remain in this country. The fact that this wonderful volume has been in the market for the last year or two has been well known to the authorities at the British Museum and South Kensington, and it is deeply to be regretted that apparently not the feeblest effort was made to obtain it for the nation. The MS. is fully described in the 'Vetusta Monumenta' (1885), issued by the Royal Society of Antiquaries, and admirably executed coloured plates of the two sides of the covers accompany the text.

MISS CAROLINE SPURGEON has sent to the printers her edition of Richard Brathwait's amusing 'Comment upon the Two Tales of Sir Jeffrey Chaucer, Knight, The Miller's Tale and The Wife of Bath,' written in his old age and printed in 1665. This is for the Chaucer Society; and in her introduction Miss Spurgeon will deal with the book as part of the history of Chaucer criticism, the latest instance of the appreciation of Chaucer surviving from Elizabethan and

Jacobean days, before the disparagement of him by Cowley and others began. As soon as Miss Spurgeon's 'Trial List of Seven Hundred or Eight Hundred Chaucer Allusions, or his Praise and Blame, 1400-1900 A.D.,' is fairly complete, she will appeal to the readers of the *Athenæum* to enlarge it.

MESSRS. WELLS GARDNER, DARTON & Co. have in preparation a small volume of 'Recollections of Jean Ingelow,' by one of her lifelong friends. The editor of the little volume would be grateful for the loan of any letters from Jean Ingelow, which will be carefully preserved and returned. These should be sent as soon as possible to the publishers at 3, Paternoster Buildings, E.C.

WE are glad to learn that the life of the late Prof. Henry Sidgwick is being written by his widow in conjunction with his brother Mr. Arthur Sidgwick, Reader in Greek in the University of Oxford.

THE Early English Text Society has ready for issue in its "Original Series" for this year: 1. 'The Lay Folk's Catechism' of Archbishop Thoresby, edited by the late Canon Simmons and by the Rev. H. E. Nolloth, of Beverley Minster; 2. 'The Minor Poems of the Vernon MS.' in the Bodleian, edited by Dr. F. J. Furnivall, part ii. The third book will be a revised edition of Robert of Brunne's 'Handlyng Synne,' A.D. 1303, with the French treatise on which it was founded, William of Waddington's 'Manuel des Pechiez,' about 1260 A.D., also edited by Dr. F. J. Furnivall. Towards this third book the Committee of the Furnivall Commemoration Fund have made the E.E.T.S. a grant of 200*l*. They have also given 200*l*. to the Society's general funds.

MR. LESLIE STEPHEN is collecting materials for a memoir of the Rev. J. R. Green.

THE Clarendon Press announces for publication on Monday next 'An English Miscellany,' to be presented to Dr. Furnivall in honour of his seventy-fifth birthday at the dinner on the anniversary—February 4th. The 'Miscellany' has been edited by Prof. W. P. Ker, with the collaboration of Prof. Napier and Prof. Skeat, and among the fifty contributors are Messrs. H. C. Beeching, H. Bradley, A. Brand, J. W. Bright, Stopford Brooke, J. Earle, O. Elton, E. Flügel, R. Garnett, I. Gollancz, C. H. Herford, J. J. Jusserand, A. F. Leach, S. Lee, W. S. McCormick, E. E. Morris, G. Neilson, Gaston Paris, F. York Powell, R. Priebsch, G. Saintsbury, W. H. Stevenson, H. Sweet, Paget Toynbee, A. W. Ward, and R. Wülker.

In the list of contents no mention is made of Browning, but with this exception the papers touch on the work of all the societies—Early English Text, New Shakspeare, Chaucer, Shelley, and Philological—through which Dr. Furnivall has worked; while the contributions to the history of the drama are, it is believed, of exceptional importance. The book opens with congratulatory verses by Prof. Saintsbury and Mr. Stopford Brooke, and closes with a bibliography of Dr. Furnivall's writings by Mr. Henry Littlehales, and a short history, by Mr. Alfred Pollard, of the movement to do honour to Dr. Furnivall, of whom, by the by, the volume contains an excellent portrait.

MR. MURRAY will shortly publish a book entitled 'The Natives of South Africa: their Economic and Social Condition,' the result of the labours of the South African Native Races Committee, which was formed in 1899 with the approval of certain well-known persons in South Africa intimately acquainted with and interested in the condition of the natives. Assistance has been received from a large number of magistrates, employers of labour, inspectors of natives, and missionaries, the object in view being to make an impartial investigation, and to collect, as far as possible, evidence from authorities of all shades of opinion bearing upon the various branches of this important question.

MR. FISHER UNWIN has now definitely decided to publish Dr. William Barry's latest novel, 'The Wizard's Knot,' on March 18th. The story is Celtic, and the scene laid in the south-west of Ireland half a century ago. The author describes the book as being "neither political nor sectarian, but a pure tragedy, shot through with the Irish April lights of frolic, folklore, and old customs."

MISS CROTTIE, the author of 'Neighbours: being Annals of a Dull Town,' has written another Irish book, entitled 'The Lost Land,' which Mr. Fisher Unwin will publish shortly. Miss Crottie sketches in it the fortunes of an Irish family, and especially of its head, "a man of sorrows" of the Messianic type.

'EGYPT and the Hinterland: a Contribution to the History of our Time,' by Mr. Frederic W. Fuller, will shortly be issued by Messrs. Longman. It contains a complete résumé of the political question and of the military operations down to the death of the Khalifa, a Coptic section, and instructions how to travel on the Sudan railway.

MR. SHERIFF LAWRENCE, the chairman of the Linotype Company, has promised to preside at the Readers' Dinner, to take place at the Hotel Cecil on Saturday, April 27th.

MADAME VILLARI is going to bring out a short monograph on Oswald von Wolkenstein, the noted Tyrolean Minnesinger of the fourteenth century. Madame Villari has, for the purpose of mastering her subject, made a pilgrimage to the birthplace and estate of the poet. His life was adventurous and dramatic, and his writings are so autobiographical that it is not difficult to realize his position as a mediæval knight influenced by the early workings of the Renaissance movement in his mountain land.

M. LUDOVIC DRAPEYRON, the distinguished French savant and editor of the *Revue de Géographie*, died on the 9th inst. of heart disease, in his sixty-first year. He was born at Limoges in February, 1839, and commenced his studies at Barcelona, where his brother had a porcelain manufactory. He went to Paris in 1859, and, after a distinguished career at the École Normale Supérieure, was appointed to the Chair of History and Geography at Besançon, whence he passed first to the Lycée Napoléon at Paris, and in 1869 to the Lycée Charlemagne. In 1876 he founded the Société de Topographie de France. M. Drapeyron has written numerous works, notably 'L'Empereur Héraclius et l'Empire Byzantin au VII^e Siècle,' 1869; 'Organisation de l'Aus-

trasie et Création de l'Allemagne,' 1869; and 'Séparation de la France et de l'Allemagne aux IX^e et X^e Siècles,' 1870. He was a very zealous teacher and a man of great erudition. Laporte, in his notice of M. Drapeyron ('Histoire Littéraire,' iii. 315), says of him that he has "écrit beaucoup de volumes, mais pas un seul livre."

THE obituary of the present week includes two other eminent foreigners. Achille Arthur Desjardins, the jurist and authority on international law, was born at Beauvais in November, 1835, and wrote a number of books—the best, perhaps, his 'French Moralists in the Sixteenth Century.' Victor Balaguer, who died at Madrid on Tuesday, was born at Barcelona in December, 1824. For some years he sat in the Spanish Parliament, and held office. In addition to a good deal of editing, he wrote poetry, dramas, and novels, some of which enjoyed a considerable popularity. Perhaps his most important work was the 'Historia Política y Literaria de los Trovadores,' which appeared in six volumes from 1878 to 1880. He was an eloquent speaker.

THE authorities of the Bibliothèque Mazarine are making a special effort to complete the extensive series of "Mazarinades" which they already possess. The set of those which were printed in Paris is almost complete, and an appeal is now made for copies of such pamphlets against the great Cardinal as appeared in various small towns and cities of the provinces. From 1648 to 1652 the stream of "Mazarinades" in France, as of Civil War tracts in England, was in full tide, and a complete bibliography would form a work of great interest to a student of the period.

FROM India comes the news of the death, on Wednesday last, of M. G. Ranade, Judge of the Bombay High Court. He was one of the ablest and most scholarly Indian publicists of his time, and possessed great influence among the educated native classes, a difficult people to handle.

WE note the appearance of Education Reports, Vol. 6, Special Subjects (2s. 3½d.).

SCIENCE

Memories of the Months. Second Series. By the Right Hon. Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bart., F.R.S. (Arnold).—We are not acquainted with a more charming and cultured writer upon country life than Sir Herbert Maxwell, and we welcome this second instalment of a collection of essays similar to that which made a favourable impression about three years ago (*Athenæum*, October 2nd, 1897). A book which consists of jottings, reminiscences, short reviews, scraps of folk-lore, disquisitions on plants and their names, rambles by rivers with a rod, and deer-stalking, to say nothing of bicycling in France, is rather trying to the reviewer, for he hardly knows where to grasp this many-sided author. The work is an intellectual kaleidoscope, and its division into twelve sections named after the months is chiefly a matter of convenience; we enjoy the result, but it defies analysis. As to the question, 'Is Animal Life Sacred?' the consideration of 'Mercy in Field Sports,' or the subject of 'Bird Protection,' Sir Herbert is always "on the side of the angels," dallying pleasantly with his subject and putting the crucial points by with a smile. He is, naturally, fond of sport, and here is his defence of the sportsman:—

"What the shooter does is to class certain wild animals useful for food as 'game'; to encourage their multiplication and protect them from molestation by destroying other wild animals which prey upon them, and by formulating regulations for killing them at specified seasons. He says, in effect: 'You are beautiful or interesting animals, useful to me for food, clothing, or other purposes; it is the inexorable law of nature that you should be killed, but I will take the killing of you into my own hands. I will undertake that you undergo no unnecessary suffering, and above all that you are secured from injury during the sacred season of reproduction.' This is the principle that lies at the base of the ethics of field-sports, and it is the sedulous observance of this that gives the sportsman a just claim to be considered merciful."

And he continues:—

"Take, for example, the ancient sport of falconry. The peregrine preys on grouse and partridges, and, but for the intervention of man, would soon reduce them to very small numbers. Man wants the game for food; protects the birds from indiscriminate slaughter by their natural foes; trains some of these foes to take some of the game at prescribed seasons, and enjoys a health-giving pastime besides. Grouse and partridges are no losers under this arrangement."

This appears to us an admirable specimen of special pleading. To see how far protection of grouse alone from "indiscriminate slaughter by their natural foes" may lead, let us turn to the list of "vermin" trapped in only one portion of the Glengarry estate between 1837 and 1840, from which we select a few items. The "vermin" includes 15 golden eagles, 27 white-tailed eagles, 275 kites, 77 harriers (various), 63 "goshawks" (probably peregrines), 285 common buzzards, and 371 rough-legged buzzards (the last two chiefly feeders on "fur"). Some of the smaller hawks and the owls, which were killed in ignorance of their usefulness, and such undoubted "detrimentals" as hooded-crows and four-footed vermin, we leave unnoticed; but the catalogue is enormous, and it seems to us that there must in those days have been on that same ground a very large amount of game very well able to maintain itself; otherwise, on what did the "vermin" live? No doubt there have been more grouse on the moors since 1840, and there has also been a very great increase in grouse-disease (a record of which reaches as far back as 1815); and it is possible that if grouse could be given their choice, they might prefer sudden death from "vermin" to lingering suffering. In making these remarks we are in sympathy with Sir Herbert in his love of sport, and we are well aware of his frequent pleadings for moderation in the destruction of birds and beasts of prey, but his optimism provokes a glance at the other side of the question. The article on 'Wild Bird Protection' is excellent, and we fully endorse the remarks on the impolicy of allowing lapwings to be taken and sold in open market, especially in spring, as this must lead to a diminution in the supply of plovers' eggs, the collection of which affords profitable employment to many persons. It is very desirable that the sale of ruffs, as well as of the dotterel, should also be prohibited in the United Kingdom in spring, and that the pretext that these birds "come from abroad" should no longer be admitted. The articles on fishing, fish-culture, and deer-stalking will give pleasure to many readers; while the descriptions of 'May in Denmark' and 'On Tyres in Touraine' compare not unfavourably with Mr. Henry James's appreciations of continental scenery. There are five pretty illustrations from photographs taken in Scotland, and altogether a more pleasant and chatty volume than the present has seldom fallen to our lot.

Another and very different work, also divided into months, is *A Year with Nature*, by W. Percival Westell, M.B.O.U. (Drane). As it is a rambling specimen of "journalism," we are not surprised to find such writing as "After a good hot cup of tea, which puts new life and vigour into us, and after lading up with the fragrant weed," &c. Many of the

articles have already appeared in provincial newspapers and other periodicals, and in that comparative obscurity they might well have been allowed to remain. The best of them is, perhaps, the chapter on 'Bird Life in Shetland.' The book is profusely illustrated, chiefly from photographs, and the photographers are very much advertised; in fact, the author is so impressed with the value of the pictorial attractions that he gives a full list of these, and no index. We were surprised to see the letters "M.B.O.U." affixed, but find that, inasmuch as Mr. Westell was elected to the membership of the British Ornithologists' Union in May last, their use is lawful, even if not expedient.

The Zoological Record, 1899. Edited by D. Sharp. (Gurney & Jackson.)—We gladly welcome the thirty-sixth volume of 'The Zoological Record,' which was distributed early in December last, though we miss from among the recorders Miss F. Buchanan and Mr. R. T. Günther, whose places are taken by Dr. Willey. We are sorry that the opportunity afforded by a change was not taken definitely to break up the unwieldy group "Vermes." It is time that lumber-room was cleared out. Following the example of the time, we may notice a survival in the contents of this volume. As we turn over its 1,000 pages we observe that the mode of naming animals has not practically altered since the time of Linnaeus; to use the language of the moment, that method has extended over three centuries. Age alone, we are open to confess, is no bar to respectability, but it must equally be owned that it is an obstacle to progress. Since the time of Linnaeus the whole philosophy of zoology has changed, though the writings of many descriptive zoologists bear no witness to the fact. When the number of known objects was comparatively few, and the workers fewer still, little or no harm was done by following the classical methods of naming "new species." Now all is falling into a hopeless confusion: "new species" tread on one another's heels, specimens in one museum are rarely compared with those in other collections, and zoologists are burying themselves under a mass of what will before long be burnt for useless rubbish. We are betraying no confidence when we announce that a serious effort is to be made to cope with the present unsatisfactory and unsatisfactory methods of systematic zoology. If it be, as we trust it may be, successful, the first of its results should be the reduction of the yearly volumes of the 'Record' to one half of their bulk. While the publication of results and the work itself are carried on in the present unsatisfactory fashion, a record such as that which lies before us is absolutely necessary to the zoologist; it was therefore with great satisfaction that we learnt that the Council of the Zoological Society does not intend to sink its work in the proposed International Catalogue. If that catalogue is successful and serviceable, well and good; if not, the zoologist will still have his 'Record.'

ATLASES AND MAPS.

Philips' London School Board Atlas. Edited by George Philip, Jun. (Philip & Son.)—*The London School Atlas.* Edited by H. O. Arnold-Forster. (London School Atlas Company.)—These two publications, both designed for the praiseworthy purpose of providing pupils in elementary schools with an atlas constructed on the best scientific lines, are so very much alike that the reviewer must be allowed to notice them together. As comparison between them, therefore, becomes inevitable, it is better to point out at once that the second, cheap as it is, is twice as expensive as the first, and the first, good as it is, twice as cheap as the second; but whichever the purchaser adopts, he gets very good value for his money. The leading features of both atlases, from the reader's point of view, are that physical maps of the more important

countries and continents are, where possible, published facing political maps; that great attention is paid to plainness, names being omitted with admirable strength of mind; and that every country keeps its own colour (more or less) on every plate. The extra space at Mr. Arnold-Forster's disposal, with forty-eight plates, enables him to resort to the first device far more often than Mr. Philip, who is confined to thirty-six plates; but where only one plate can be devoted to a country the former (rightly, we think) prefers a political to a physical map, Mr. Philip adopting the other course. At the same time, we regret that Mr. Arnold-Forster should have carried his system so far as to publish his political map of England without any indication of hills whatever, a course which he has not adopted in the case of France. One editor names rather more, the other rather less, than 150 places in Africa, and they reverse their positions with fifty places in Yorkshire. Mr. Arnold-Forster's plates are no doubt the more finished and the prettier of the two throughout, as might be expected from the difference of price; but Mr. Philip's plates are always clear, except perhaps plate 7, an English railway map, which is, to our mind, needless, and beyond all question needlessly hideous. While great trouble has been taken with the plates, it is probable that more thought has been expended on the preliminary matter. There is no necessity to compare the results, but we congratulate Mr. Philip on having discussed projections (conical, equivalent, and Mercator's) in three paragraphs, which bring the beginning of the matter well within the grasp of the ordinary teacher, and on his inclusion and choice of statistical tables. Both works exhibit a fancy landscape with an appropriate map, and here we may fairly say Mr. Philip scores, from the elementary-school point of view, especially with a stream shown on the map, and invisible in, but justified by, the landscape. On the other hand, Mr. Arnold-Forster's view of Oxford, with maps of the same on four scales, his views of West Water, with a reproduction of the inch Ordnance map, his specimens of four ways of mapping the neighbourhood of Keswick, and lastly his chart of the entrance to the Solent, provide the elementary scholar of to-day with an infinitely more attractive conception of geography than was laid before children a very few years ago.

Mr. Murray sends us two more of his *Handy Classical Maps*, edited by Mr. G. B. Grundy. One of them contains a capital map of Palestine, taken from the Palestine Exploration Survey, and two smaller maps illustrating the Old Testament and St. Paul's journeys—all three well suited to schools. The other, more adapted to advanced students, shows Germany and the Balkans—that is, the country of the Roman imperial frontier along the Rhine and the Danube. The maps, which (as our readers may recollect) are based on an older atlas, have obviously been revised with care and scholarship, and the colouring of the different elevations in shades of green and pink and brown is especially successful in the instances before us, where considerable tracts of land are included in one and the same map. One can realize, for instance, the position of Dacia, wedged in between the two Danubian plains of Hungary and Roumania. Now and again, of course, the colouring fails. The interesting positions of the early Roman fortresses of Poetovio and Celeia are not made clear. The pass or depression which separates the Carpathians from the Bohemian mountains, and provides easy access from Silesia to the Danube, might also have been made clearer. The Romans at any rate recognized its importance, for they planted two fortresses, Vindobona and Carnuntum, right opposite its southern débouchement. Here, and in some other details, there is need of some little "cooking" beyond the addition of colour. We do not see any harm in such treatment; every map of every sort has more or less "cooking"

in its construction, and we only plead for a little more. However, these maps of Mr. Murray's are far better than anything which has yet been attempted in the direction of teaching the physical features of ancient geography, and they deserve all attention from students and schoolmasters. Two misprints in the "legend" attached to the boundaries of Dacia should be rectified in a future edition, and the red line which marks the Limes Transrhœnanus should be revised.

SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Jan. 10.—Viscount Dillon, President, in the chair.—This being an evening appointed for the election of Fellows, no papers were read. The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Rev. the Hon. G. H. F. Vane, Sir James Sawyer, and Messrs. F. Green, F. B. Goldney, H. Leonard, C. G. R. Matthey, H. L. T. Lyon, E. E. Goulden, T. C. Hughes, J. S. Udal, R. Blomfield, T. Ashby, jun., and C. J. Praetorius.

STATISTICAL.—Jan. 15.—Mr. Lesley C. Probyn, V.P., in the chair.—A paper entitled 'A Review of Indian Statistics' was read by Mr. F. C. Danvers.

LINNEAN.—Dec. 20.—Prof. S. H. Vines, President, in the chair.—Messrs. C. W. A. Bruce, Ananda K. Coomara-Swamy, and A. T. Watson were admitted Fellows.—On behalf of Dr. J. W. Cornwall the Secretary exhibited two photographs of a compound flower which appeared on a white foxglove growing in a garden near Godalming.—Mr. B. Daydon Jackson exhibited two editions of Hill's 'Flora Britannica,' the earlier, of 1759, being apparently unknown to bibliographers. This edition differs from the usual issue of 1760 in having a different title-page and publisher's name: the copy exhibited wants the plates mentioned on the title. The species ascribed to the genus *Statice* are three in number—in modern nomenclature one species of *Armeria* and two of *Statice*.—Some additional remarks were made by Mr. H. Groves.—Prof. Howes exhibited a couple of pigeon's egg-shells, cast up at the mouth by the tropical African egg-eating snake *Dasypteltis scabra*, now living in the Zoological Society's Gardens, and called attention to the presence of a series of spiral and longitudinal fracture-lines, pointing to an elaborate co-ordinate muscular activity in the "crushing" process, the probable nature of which he discussed in the light of the recent investigations of Katheriner into the anatomy of the animal and the observations of Miss Durham upon its feeding habits.—A discussion followed in which Prof. Poulton and Prof. Marcus Hartog took part, the latter expressing his regret that Miss Durham, who had first described and figured the mode in which *Dasypteltis* swallows the egg and disposes of the shell, was precluded from being present.—Prof. Poulton exhibited a living specimen of the death's head moth (*Acherontia atropus*), and proved with a stethoscope that the late Prof. Moseley was correct in stating that the sound comes from the proboscis. He also showed that all sound ceased the moment the tip of the straightened proboscis was dipped in water, and could not be resumed until the organ was withdrawn, thus supporting Prof. Moseley's opinion that the sound was produced by forcing air through the proboscis. Prof. Poulton also exhibited projected photographs of *Acraea unicolor*, var. *alcippina*, recently received from Sierra Leone by Mr. Herbert Druce, together with specimens of *Limnas chrysippus*, var. *alcippus*, which they closely resemble. He showed that this *Acraea* is represented in the south and east central regions of Africa by varieties which correspond to the respective forms of *L. chrysippus*; that in fact the geographical coincidence between the two is much closer than between the forms of the female of *Hyppolimnas misippus* and those of *L. chrysippus*. The former is one example of Müllerian mimicry, both forms being independently distasteful; while the female *Hyppolimnas* is generally regarded as a Batesian mimic.—In a discussion which ensued, Col. Swinhoe, Mr. H. Goss, and Prof. Farmer took part.—Mr. A. T. Watson read a paper on the structure and habits of the Ammonocharidae, a group of marine polychæte worms which inhabit sandy localities and are protected by tubes of unique structure. These consist of an internal membranous sheath, to which minute fragments of shell or sand are so attached as to produce a perfectly flexible, elastic result. The fabrication of the tube (as actually observed) was described, the inner sheath being shown to be produced by secretion from the "thread-glands," and the outer covering to be subsequently affixed by the glandular "Lippen-organ," which also discharges other important functions. The structure

of these worms was shown to be in many points exceptional; and there was described, as a curious modification to facilitate the building operations, a perforation of the dorsal cephalic lobe, guarded and closed by a muscular "grating." The equipment of uncini was shown to be immense, in adaptation to the burrowing habits. Segmental intercommunication was regulated by valves of two forms, the action of which, as witnessed, was described. The genital products, which are discharged through a pair of well-marked pores, were found to develop into the larval form termed by Mentschnikoff *Mitraria*, which would accordingly appear to be *Ammochares*.—Mr. I. H. Burkill read a paper on the flora of Vavau, a little-known island of the Tonga group, on which some remarks were made by the President.

METEOROLOGICAL.—Jan. 16.—*Annual Meeting*.—Dr. C. T. Williams, President, in the chair.—The Secretary read the Report of the Council, which showed the Society to be in a satisfactory condition, there being an increase of fifty-five Fellows over the previous year. Reference was made to the celebration of the Society's jubilee on the 3rd and 4th of April last, and also to the death of Mr. G. J. Symons, who had, amongst other things, bequeathed to the Society about 2,200 volumes and 4,000 pamphlets from his valuable library.—Dr. Williams delivered his presidential address, taking for his subject 'The Climate of Norway and its Factors.' He considered that its meteorology would prove an attractive study for the Society, as having much in common with that of our country, both the Norwegian and the British shores being influenced by the same Gulf Stream, and having their winters and summers tempered by the same equalizing agency. The factors which influenced the climate were (1) the insular character of the country; (2) the distribution of the mountain ranges, which explains to a large extent the rainfall; (3) the waters of the ocean, which from a variety of circumstances come into close connexion with much of the country, and thus temper extremes of climate; and (4) the sun, which in this latitude remains in the summer long above the horizon and in the winter long below it. The address was illustrated by a large number of lantern-slides of Norwegian scenery, embracing mountains, glaciers, fjords, &c.—The election of officers and Council for the ensuing year then took place. Mr. W. H. Dines being appointed *President*, and Dr. C. T. Williams, *Treasurer*.

ARISTOTELIAN.—Jan. 14.—Mr. A. Boutwood, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. H. Sturt read a paper on 'Art and Personality.' Art is a function of personality, and the object of the paper was to elicit some main features of personality by a study of one of its chief functions. Art is a department of the higher life which also comprehends knowledge and morality. A characteristic of the higher life is that it is enthusiastic or devoted, and the objects of its devotion are persons. This devotedness to persons is a principle of unity in the higher personality. On the other hand, we find disunion in personality in the fact that art, though connected with knowledge and morality, is essentially, so far as human experience goes, separate from it. The valuation of artistic consciousness is intrinsic—i.e., the artist is primarily his own valuer. But we cannot understand the significance of this intrinsically unless we regard the individual as the organ of an objective super-human system.—The paper was followed by a discussion.

MATHEMATICAL.—Jan. 10.—Dr. Hobson, President, in the chair.—Messrs. H. W. Curjel and G. H. Hardy were elected Members, and Mr. H. W. Richmond was admitted into the Society.—Prof. Love spoke on 'Streaming Motions past Cylindrical Boundaries.'—Mr. Basset also spoke on the subject of the communication.—Mr. Campbell read a paper entitled 'A Proof of the Third Fundamental Theorem in Lie's Theory of Continuous Groups.'—The President communicated a paper by Mr. Barnes on 'The Zeros of Bessel's Functions,' and also one by Prof. F. S. Carey.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon.** Royal Academy, 4.—'The Struggle after Nature,' Prof. V. C. Prinsep.
— London Institution, 5.—'The First Ascent of Mount Kenya,' Mr. H. J. Mackinder.
— Surveyors' Institution, 7.—'Income Tax, Schedule A,' Mr. L. S. Wood. (Junior Meeting.)
— Society of Arts, 8.—'Elementary Art Education,' Lecture II, Mr. J. Liberty Todd. (Lancaster Lectures.)
— Bibliographical, 8.—'The "Herbarius" and "Hortus Sanitatis,"' Dr. J. F. Payne.
Tues. Royal Institution, 3.—'Practical Mechanics,' Lecture II, Prof. J. A. Ewing.
— Society of Arts, 4.—'The Commonwealth of Australia,' Hon. Sir J. A. Cockburn.
— Institution of Civil Engineers, 5.—'The Present Condition and Prospects of the Panama Canal Works,' Mr. J. T. Ford.
— Anthropological Institute, 8.—'Malay Metal-working,' Mr. W. Renshal.
Wed. Society of Arts, 8.—'The Proposed High-Speed Electrical "Monorail" between Liverpool and Manchester,' Mr. F. B. Behr.
— Geological, 8.—'The Glacial Geology of Victoria,' Prof. J. W. Gregory; 'The Origin of the Dunall Raine, Lake District,' Mr. E. D. Oldham.

- Tues.** Royal Institution, 3.—'The Origin of Vertebrate Animals,' Lecture II, Dr. A. Willey.
— Royal Academy, 4.—'Art up to Date,' Prof. V. C. Prinsep.
— Royal, 4.
— London Institution, 6.—'Bach's Forty-eight Preludes and Fugues,' Mr. J. A. Fuller-Maitland.
— Institution of Electrical Engineers, 8.—'Discussion on "Capacity in Alternate Current Working,"' Mr. W. J. C. Moens.
Fri. Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—'Sewage Treatment,' Mr. C. Johnston. (Students' Meeting.)
— Royal Institution, 9.—'Some Aspects of Seventeenth-Century Fiction,' Dr. A. W. Ward.
Sat. Royal Institution, 3.—'The Government and People of China,' Lecture II, Prof. R. K. Douglas.

Science Gossip.

SIR ARCHIBALD GEIKIE, after forty-four years of public service, will retire from the position of Director-General of the Geological Surveys of the United Kingdom on March 1st; and on the evening of that day he will be entertained by his friends at a complimentary dinner.

The Geological Society will this year award its medals and funds as follows: The Wollaston Medal to Mr. Charles Barrois, of Lille; the Murchison Medal to Mr. A. J. Jukes-Browne, of Torquay; the Lyell Medal to Dr. R. H. Traquair, of Edinburgh; the Bigsby Medal to Mr. G. W. Lamplugh, of the Geological Survey; the Wollaston Fund to Dr. A. W. Rowe; the Murchison Fund to Mr. T. S. Hall, of Melbourne; and the Lyell Fund to Dr. J. W. Evans and Mr. A. McHenry.

The third annual conference of science teachers was held on the 10th and 11th inst. at the Chelsea Polytechnic. As there seems to be some likelihood that the Board of Education will introduce science teaching into all schools in the near future, many of the addresses were much to the point; for instance, the paper by Mr. W. Hibbert, dealing with the simplification of apparatus and the construction of instruments of which students can see all and make most parts. The co-ordination of workshop and laboratory instruction, upon which Mr. T. P. Nunn and Mr. A. G. Hubbard made some excellent suggestions, gives splendid opportunities for the making of the instruments alluded to. The wood-work has a definite use before it; the physics is better understood; and if the teaching be properly organized neither instructor becomes subservient to the other. Most useful also were the many hints given as to the fitting up of laboratories by the heads of the departments at the Chelsea Polytechnic. Chemistry, physics, and mechanical engineering came in for attention, but biology, though a prominent feature of the last conference, was overlooked.

On the morning of the second day the teaching of science to girls occupied the attention of the meeting, and Miss Edith Aitken summed up the subject. From what she said it appears that things are as bad as ever, at least in the high schools. Very little science is taught practically, and the want of time, accommodation, and apparatus was alleged. The scarcity of science mistresses worthy of the name must also be taken into consideration. Miss Aitken, while allowing that girls were taught practically in organized science schools, said that the instruction they obtained was technically adapted to boys. What the objection to this might be was, however, not mentioned. Under the heading of 'Domestic Science' Prof. Armstrong quarrelled with some current terms. For women he suggested a course on air, water, heat, and so on as they affect the household; but he laid most emphasis on accurate calculations as to weights of food and amount of fuel used for particular pieces of work, saying that the success of the Germans dated from the time when they introduced the balance into their manufactories.

In the afternoon Prof. Earl Barnes, in bringing forward the subject of teaching very young children, described as a wholly adult scheme the familiar graduated system of instruction. Lastly, Prof. Lloyd Morgan advocated the

study of psychology by the teacher as part of the necessary equipment for his work. He had found that, if teacher and pupils entered together into an investigation which provided new facts and observations, a fresher vitality, otherwise lacking, would be attained.

The inaugural meeting of the Birmingham local section of the Institution of Electrical Engineers will be held in the buildings of the University of Birmingham on Wednesday next, when Dr. Oliver Lodge will deliver his address as chairman.

PROF. W. W. CAMPBELL has been appointed Director of the Lick Observatory, in succession to the late Prof. Keeler.

MM. RAMBAUT AND SY at Algiers, and M. Chofardet at Besançon, observing Giacobini's comet (c. 1900) on December 25th-27th, describe it as presenting the appearance of a roundish nebula without tail, and with a faint central nucleus the brightness of which was smaller than that of a star of the twelfth magnitude. The comet is now in the southern part of the constellation Cetus, moving in a nearly easterly direction, but is out of reach of any but the most powerful telescopes.

M. ERNEST LEBON, F.R.A.S., is preparing a second edition of his useful little 'Histoire Abrégée de l'Astronomie' (Paris, Gauthier-Villars), which was first issued in 1899, and is illustrated with a large number of portraits of astronomers, chiefly French.

FRANCE has during this week suffered the loss of two of its oldest scientific men—Charles Hermite, the mathematician, and Gaspard Adolphe Chatin, the botanist. M. Hermite enjoyed a world-wide reputation, and most of the long list of his books deal with the theory of numbers. He was a prolific writer for over half a century, and not only received high honours in his own and other countries, but was a member of the Royal and Mathematical Societies of London, of the Academy of Science, Dublin, and of the Royal Society, Edinburgh. He was born at Dieuze (Meurthe) on Christmas Day, 1822, and died on Monday last at his house in the Rue de la Sorbonne. To mark the respect in which he was held, an international "Comité Hermite" was organized at Paris in 1892, and on December 24th in that year he was the recipient of numerous addresses of congratulation from his scientific admirers in all parts of the world, as well as of a medal specially designed by M. Chaplain. It may be noted that the Royal Society's 'Catalogue of Scientific Papers,' down to the last published decade, attributes no fewer than 116 important mathematical contributions to M. Hermite.

M. G. A. CHATIN was born at Tullins on November 30th, 1813, and was the *doyen* of French scientific journalists. He originally studied medicine, but when quite young he was appointed Professor of Botany at the École Supérieure de Pharmacie, of which he became director in 1874. He was elected member of the Académie de Médecine in 1853, and succeeded M. Claude Gay at the Académie des Sciences in June, 1874. His works include 'Études sur la Physiologie Végétale,' 1848; 'La Symétrie Générale des Organes des Végétaux,' 1848; and 'Anatomie Comparée des Végétaux,' 1866, a very fine work, with over 100 plates. M. Joannès Chatin, himself a distinguished naturalist and the author of several works on botanical and other subjects, is a son of the late *savant*.

The death is reported from Helsingfors of Dr. R. F. RANKEN, lecturer on mathematics and physics. Dr. Ranken, whose name is widely known in connexion with his astronomical studies, was at one time assistant at the Stockholm Observatory.

The Accademia Reale delle Scienze at Turin has announced that the prize of 9,600 francs bequeathed by Dr. Bressa to further scientific

investigations and discoveries is now open for competition for the first time. Intending competitors must send in their work by December 31st, 1902.

FINE ARTS

Chippendale, Sheraton, and Hepplewhite Furniture Designs. Reproduced and arranged by J. Munro Bell. Illustrated. (Gibbins & Co.)

ALTHOUGH the three peculiar developments of furniture designing which are associated with the names of the above-mentioned upholsterers are, viewed in the light of artistic construction, distinctly illogical, it is certain that of late a strong current of public fancy (one can hardly call it taste) has set in in favour of the rococo forms and pseudo-classic details which they, chiefly inspired by the debased modes of French craftsmen of the first third of the eighteenth century, so greatly favoured. The enormous prices (approaching 40% for a single "shield-back" chair of Hepplewhite's) now paid for upholstery of his period and earlier, the success which has attended the manufacture of shams designed to impose upon the unwary, not less than the appearance of such books as this and Chancellor's 'Examples,' including reprints of volumes by all the makers in question, show the strength of the current rather than the growth of what the old writers called "an elegant taste" of the educated kind.

It is not that these three manufacturers and their less-known followers, such as the first John Linnell and W. Seddon, of Gray's Inn Lane, failed to produce much furniture of the more costly sort which exhibits a picturesqueness of a kind essentially quaint, rather than graceful, pure, and simple in its forms and proportions; on the contrary, they often did so, and some of their works are attractive and convenient, though not in harmony with exacting and severe canons of design. Nor do they show the logic of construction, such as ensures the strength of the example and brings into service (not relying upon glue and screws) the more valuable qualities of the wood employed. The spindle-legs, curving, for example, in all sorts of ways, and attached as it were by a freak to the bodies of the chairs and tables, cabinets and screens, which Sheraton derived from French fashions of the epochs of Louis XIV. and Louis XV., are in point here, and amply illustrated in this reprint of that renowned artisan's 'Cabinet-Maker and Upholsterer's Drawing-Book,' third edition, revised, 1802. It is noteworthy that when Sheraton departed from his French models, and corrected, as Chippendale had done before him, his curious fancies for Chinese types on the one hand and feeble floriated carvings on the other, he generally did well.

In these amended circumstances the makers produced innumerable good things, such as the second case for a tall clock by Chippendale on p. 19, which, without a trace of French or Chinese types, is a model of aptitude and graceful proportions—far better in all respects than its neighbour, the first tall clock-case, likewise by him, on the same page. The tea-chest (reminiscent of tea at a guinea a pound) on p. 27 is a capital

illustration of Chippendale at his best, and utterly opposed to the sham rococo dashed with Chinese influences apparent in the graceless cabinet on the same page. The same man's notions of "Gothic" design, as he called it, are simply and inexpressibly foolish in the clothes-chest (with odd legs!) shown on p. 37, which is not only an offence against taste and graceful designing, but also as spiritless as it is weak, in this contrasting strongly with the not inelegant, though florid, showy, and frankly French commode table which accompanies it on the same page. The latter is irreproachably constructed in the junctions of the legs with the body, and shows expressiveness and spirit in its carved and brass work; it is, we think, not only French in its style, but a direct copy of a fine French example of the undebased order. As to its companion, Horace Walpole himself, the veritable parent of the curious conglomeration of Chinese with the style now known as "Strawberry Hill Gothic," would have flinched from such a "Gothic clothes-chest" as appears here. Such things as this set Madox Brown and Rossetti about designing furniture upon artistic and rational principles, as they understood them, and, with consequences of no small moment in the history of modern decorative art, induced William Morris to try his hand in furniture designing. The former two were bound to be more successful than the latter, who when a beginner manifested his abhorrence of the sham French, sham Chinese abortions of Chippendale's and Sheraton's weaker moods by going a great deal too far in the contrary direction and producing a number of ponderous and uncouth articles, which Rossetti justly and wittily described as "incubi and succubi."

No incubi and succubi came from the factories of Chippendale, Sheraton, or Hepplewhite, whose works are admirably illustrated in this book; their failures were frequently in the florid excess and ineptitude of their applied, non-constructive ornaments; but they also did better at times than the fashionable influences of their epoch would seem to have promised. While no artist could sleep in some of the much-draped bedsteads of Sheraton, many of whose bookcases, too, are offensively florid and unapt, he produced couches (in which influences of the Directoire and Empire types are manifest) upon which a Greek or Pompeian artist would have looked with pleasure, as on pp. 138 and 139, while others are direct copies from antique sculptures; besides, some of his "tub-chairs" and other armchairs, on pp. 134 and 145, are models of construction and decoration, and full of spirit; and scores of his backs for parlour chairs, as on pp. 72 and 78, excel anything produced in their way before his time or since, and almost justify those collectors whose purses are taxed to buy them at modern rates. A few cabinets and library-tables, fire-screens, dressing-glasses, urn-tables, and chairs of all the three upholsterers before us are of a fine order. While Hepplewhite excelled in wardrobes, he sometimes failed in bookcases, of which the lines are not chastened and the proportions fail in goodness; at the same time, his chairs, as represented in the reprinted 'Guide' he issued in 1794,

are not to be compared with those of Sheraton, to which we have just referred as models. Much of Hepplewhite's success was due to his inlays, the taste of which was seldom less than first-rate, as good as anything from Paris, and to his charming adoption of coloured woods, satin-wood especially. Some of the tables here delineated seem fit for Titania's court when she gave tea-parties, or for the heroine of the 'Rape of the Lock.' Of these inlays and veneerings of Hepplewhite, of course, the 'Guide,' being illustrated in black and white only, gives but faint ideas. Apart from this, it illustrates well the forms, decorations, and proportions of the maker's chairs, sofas, tables, drawers, washstands, and bedsteads, of which the best is that with the purest form, shown on p. 237.

Hepplewhite was most effective when treating single and long lines. Sheraton, on the other hand, when he did not overdo the details, had greater vivacity in his designs, larger resources, and greater courage than Hepplewhite; witness many of the instances reprinted here from his 'Designs for Household Furniture,' in eighty-four plates, 1812, republished after his death. His celebrated 'Cabinet-Maker's Drawing-Book,' to which we have already referred, justifies the title-page, which announces that it is "Recommended by many Workmen of the First Abilities in London who have themselves Inspected the Work." Sheraton's affection for curves is manifest in both these issues; and sometimes his combinations of curves with carvings and draperies were far from happy, as in that nondescript piece 'A Summer Bed in Two Compartments'—i.e., two beds with an alley between them—and the distinctly French 'Alcove Bed,' which faces it, on p. 115. There are not a few examples of the inventor's zeal for devising furniture which did not announce its real character and functions, almost sinking to the level of the iniquities of the "turn-up bedstead," which in the daytime pretends to be a wardrobe or a chest of drawers. To this sort of thing we do not think Hepplewhite condescended, though he did not lack ingenuity in his constructive adaptations, showing articles which were not what they seemed.

Mr. J. M. Bell's 'Introduction' is a sensible essay upon the English cabinet-makers' art of the eighteenth century, but it errs in being too comprehensive as to the date of the works selected, which do not go further back than 1760 at the latest. Of the general subject the author says, indicating his own and a reviewer's difficulties:—

"Since the relative positions of Chippendale, Sheraton, and Hepplewhite are involved in the confusion inevitable to the difficulty of comparing their work in the several separate volumes which include the illustrations of their designs and the descriptions of them, the present volume has been undertaken with the purpose of including and condensing into one volume the published works of the three leading designers and makers of the furniture which has given an exceptional reputation to the surroundings of the domestic life of the last [eighteenth] century."

As to Mr. Bell's manner of what he calls "including and condensing," we have

already said that it is successful; at the same time it was one of the easiest of artistic and literary tasks. The editor, if he may be called so, is not particularly well provided with knowledge of the furniture-making of earlier ages than that in which the trio of upholsterers in view here flourished. Had he been so he would never have written:—

"The domestic life of Great Britain [how far back does he put that?] could have made little progress in comfort and elegance when the castles of the barons were in constant danger of being beleaguered, and when their architecture was confined to resisting invaders rather than displaying costly decorations."

Does Mr. Bell really imagine, with Scott, that the knights and barons of any country "drank the red wine through the helmet barred," and during peaceful intervals lived in their castles, which were actually like the modern casemates of fortified places? If so, our author would have done well to study the illuminations of countless manuscripts, which abound with pictures of interiors other than those which possess his fancy. And how about the monasteries and palaces, where peace abode for tens of decades? Again, Mr. Bell might have inquired further before he wrote of English mediæval woodwork, "What art was displayed in these carvings may have been due to the Flemish examples that reached this country." The fact is that, except in East Anglia and the south of Scotland, the influence of Low Country carving, or sculpture of any sort, is scarcely discernible in the relics referred to here. Most of them are English, and seldom affected even by French types. Not so in the times of the upholstering trio here studied. Mr. Bell includes slight sketches of the careers of R. Adam, Sir W. Chambers, Chippendale, Sheraton, and Hepplewhite, which, brief as they are, are sufficient for his purpose. The most instructive parts of his volume are, however, the 237 pages of plates in facsimile.

BOOKS FOR STUDENTS.

The Method of Spirit Fresco Painting. (Roberson & Co.)—This highly practical treatise was called for by the increased use of mural painting, as by Madox Brown in the Town Hall, Manchester, by Lord Leighton at various places, and by the able artists who have recently filled panels in the Royal Exchange with illustrations of the civic virtues. The almost entire failure of fresco proper at the Houses of Parliament, and the great difficulties and scant success attending the employment of water-glass painting in the last-named building by Maclise and others, some years ago induced the late Mr. Gambier Parry and those who followed his example to try the newer style, the methods of using which are here set forth in detail with great clearness, and with attestations from Leighton, Mr. Shields, and others, who combine in warmly praising the process in question, and whose experience is confirmed by their results. If we are to have mural pictures of an unchanging nature, which is not the case when oil media are employed, the best method that is known at present is undoubtedly that here set forth, as it is an improvement upon the bases of that known as Gambier Parry's method. The British climate will not tolerate fresco proper, nor even any of those compromises which, with laymen, bear the name of that historic method. Scarcely a relic remains of

many attempts to naturalize this style, and, even in Italy, it is well known to experts that a large proportion of the great mural pictures of the golden age of art have been extensively repaired, even to considerable repainting, with distemper. If Messrs. Roberson's brochure has no other use, it may do good service in making the public understand that the case of fresco proper in England is hopeless; that spirit fresco is available, and, as Mr. Seymour Lucas tells us in this text, "a most fascinating medium"; and that the ancient paintings which have been discovered on church walls in this country are not frescoes, as the newspapers, clergy, and even architects, who ought to know better, call them, but nothing else than works in distemper, and almost exactly the same, to speak technically, as the ancient pictures which decorate Egyptian tombs and sepulchral caverns.

Living Anatomy, by C. L. Burns and R. J. Colenso (Longmans), is a small portfolio containing eighty photographic plates of male and female anatomical figures and nudités in similar attitudes. The examples are very clear and instructive so far as they go, and the names of the superficial muscles in the anatomical figures are indicated at the sides of the plates. Intended for the use of artists, they subserve the studies painters and sculptors ought to make elaborately if they intend to understand what they study. Without such work they can only hope to charm observers as ignorant and indifferent to beauty as themselves. Each plate can be detached for separate use at the easel's side. We have said these plates are instructive so far as they go, which implies that they do not, in our opinion, go far enough. In fact, as it is indispensable art-students should thoroughly understand the mechanics of the skeleton and the relations of the bones to the muscles, we wonder why 'Living Anatomy' is confined to myology, without even a hint at osteology. Besides, we desire plates of details showing on enlarged scales the muscles of the fore-arm, leg, neck, face, and hand. We should also like plates of the second layer of muscles which show themselves through the thinner external ones.

Woodworking for Beginners is a manual for amateurs in carpentry in all its branches, by C. G. Wheeler (Putnam's Sons), and especially addressed to boys, but useful for their seniors of all ages. As such it is highly commendable, because it is well ordered, carefully written as to details, extremely practicable, and by no means indifferent to the impatience and fitful laziness of boys. The boy of the United States of America seems to be chiefly addressed in the introduction and body of the book, but the British boy may find comfort and improve what mind he may be supposed to possess in studying this manual, though he may question the truth as well as the wisdom of a sounding axiom from Carlyle's 'Sartor Resartus,' which serves as the book's motto and defines man as a tool-making animal, who without tools is nothing—"with tools he is all." If the Sage of Cheyne Walk had gone a little deeper than this rather hoary commonplace, and said that man is a thumbd animal, he would have hit the mark and included tools and all that comes of them in subtler, terser, and more exact terms. With more than seven hundred well-drawn illustrations to help him, Mr. Wheeler has contrived to set forth compendiously how many things are made, such as cupboards, tables, toys, and stools; even simple structures such as cottages and boats come into view, so that, if we could believe (which we cannot) that a handicraft can be learnt from a book, we should say that 'Woodworking for Beginners' might be equal to the task.

LANDSCAPE EXHIBITION, DUDLEY GALLERY, PICCADILLY.

Six capable painters have combined, as before, to illustrate modern English landscape art in its healthier, more studious and refined phases. Each man's works are grouped, and each group is independent, but the whole amply sustains the art as Constable (whose light most of them work in) and Bonington left it. First in order are Mr. E. A. Waterlow's nine varied, harmonious, and sympathetic pictures, full of light, pure colours and tones. A choicer study of evening, broad and sober, than his *Hampshire Aron* (No. 1), the pearly vista of a twilight stream, we have not had even from him. Nor is his *Mill on the Ouse* (2) lacking in the beauty and charm of nature, while it depicts the sobriety and greyness of rainy weather with much of Constable's feeling, just as Corot's graceful and pure mood is suggested in No. 1. *Early Morning* (4) excels in the grading of its light, colours, and air. White vapours cling to the earth, and the air is visibly clearing. The painter is more than usually happy in *September Evening* (6), which, excelling in its delicacy, possesses much of the breadth and dignity of the old masters. Mr. Waterlow always aims at simplicity and repose in his English views. Of this *The River Path* (8) is an admirable illustration.—Mr. R. W. Allan comes next on the walls, and fills his space effectively, with colour more brilliant, lighting more vivid, tonality less tender, though more ambitious. Under such conditions, which are not necessarily defects, we can fully enjoy the breaking waves, the level shore, and the luminosity of *Portlucnockie* (No. 1). The richness of the coloration, which in its olive hues recalls an early Linnell, in *Among the Olive Groves* (2) commends a capital piece. *Cullen Harbour* (4), boats with dark, tanned sails at a pier, is bright and strong, perhaps a very little too much so; but the vigour of *A Gate of the Sea* (5), a gap between dark and lofty cliffs, dashed with intense sunlight and shadows, is not, great as it is, too great. Its spaciousness is striking. *Making for Home* (8), small craft racing through turbulent waves, is telling and full of motion, but is rather painty.—Mr. Aumonier's landscapes are nine in all, and the best of them is, we think, *A Cambridgeshire Farm* (5), which shows expansive air and distance, a fine sky, and a difficult foreground well treated. In the *Spring Time* (7) and *A Quiet Morning* (8) are among this painter's best works.—Mr. L. Thomson is the third painter of landscape on these walls, and, with other commendable examples, his *Peaceful Summer* (5), distinguished as it is by the grandeur of the dark pines massed upon a headland and overlooking the wide champaign and a devious stream, may, though rather conventional, win many votes. The sentiment of the whole is well preserved by its prevailing low tones.—Mr. Peppercorn's position is enhanced by at least four of his eleven contributions. These are *Evening* (3), which is tender and sober; *A Stormy Day* (4), a vigorous rendering of mountainous grey clouds driven in haste over a slate-coloured sea; *A Sedgy Pool* (5), rainy twilight treated with rare sentiment and in mournful mood; and *Moonrise at Sea* (6), a rarely attempted subject, impressive in its truth and strength. Here Mr. Peppercorn excels himself.—Mr. J. S. Hill, the last of the group to be noticed, sends twelve pictures, of which we like best the very tender study of silvery light and admirably graded colours representing *The Thames at Kew* (3) and *Night* (12), a strong and studious rendering of the effect of the full moon breaking through a rift in the dense dark clouds that oppress a level landscape, where, near at hand and darkling amid trees, a farmhouse has been happily depicted.

SALE.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on the 12th inst. a series of pictures representing views in London. The following were the best prices realized: Canaletto, *The City Monument*, 141*l.*; *Westminster Bridge*, 136*l.*; *Somerset Steps*, 215*l.*; *St. James's Palace*, 252*l.*; *Northumberland House*, 94*l.* E. Dayes, *Bloomsbury Square*, 94*l.*; *Putney Bridge*, 120*l.* J. Farington, *Old Westminster Bridge*, 89*l.* S. Scott, *Buckingham Gate to Blackfriars Bridge*, 162*l.*; *Old London Bridge*, 199*l.* J. Boydell, *Chelsea Bridge*, 94*l.*; *Lambeth Palace*, 94*l.* *The Wedding Feast*, a set of eight decorative panels, by Messrs. Hodgson, Leslie, Marks, Storey, Wynfield, and Yeames, fetched 231*l.*

Fine-Art Gossip.

THE Winter Exhibition of the Society of Painters in Water Colours will be closed to-day (Saturday). The annual election of new Associates of this body is appointed for January 24th. Last year those desirous of this distinction were as many as seventy-two.

M. GEORGES SCOTT exhibits at Messrs. Tooth & Sons', Haymarket, three pictures entitled 'Incidents in the Transvaal War.'

THE Royal Academy has published the third part of its 'General Indexes to the First Thirty Exhibitions' of successive winters, 1870 to 1899, each part referring to a decade, and supplying (1) the names of the contributors of works lent to the Academicians, the dates of their loans, and the numbers of the same under each year; (2) the names of the artists of the works, the dates of the pictures exhibited, and the numbers of the same in each year. These General Indexes are indispensable to visitors who retain the catalogues, and wish to trace the pictures which have been on view, or to ascertain their owners' names, which may change. It would be a boon to students if some one would publish similar lists concerning the Old Masters' Exhibitions at the British Institution, 1813-1867, of which Dallaway published an instalment, 1813-1823, hopefully looking forward to continue his task. Dallaway's arrangement of data was faulty and his work incomplete, but, so far as it goes, it is useful.

MANY years ago the Royal Academicians promised to reprint the catalogues of their 'Summer Exhibitions' from the earliest date, 1769, up to the time when the enormous numbers of catalogues issued has ensured their being readily obtainable. Those preceding 1800, or even 1820, are very uncommon. As it is, collectors and picture dealers often copy the older catalogues in manuscript, complete series in type being rare, so that they are sold at from sixteen to twenty-five guineas, or even more, according to the condition of the sets. The rarest English exhibition catalogue is that of 'The Original Paintings, Busts, Carved Figures, &c. &c. &c., Now Exhibiting, by The Society of Sign Painters, At the Large Rooms, The Upper End of Bow-Street, Covent Garden, nearly opposite Play-House Passage,' 1761. This is the so-called 'Hogarth's Exhibition,' but it was chiefly promoted by Bonnell Thornton, and designed to ridicule the exhibition formed in the Society of Arts' Rooms by the Society of Artists, 1760.

MR. JOHN LINNELL sends the following notes on Michael Angelo's 'Last Judgment':

"As a postscript to the note published in the *Athenæum* on the 15th December, respecting the erroneous description in 'A History of the Painters of All Schools,' it ought to be stated that the impossibility of the alteration in the 'Last Judgment' that Louis Viardot asserts took place must be obvious to every one who has any knowledge of the work; for the upper edge of the fresco of the 'Last Judgment' actually joins the adjacent older frescoes of the ceiling without any 'architecture' whatever intervening between them. The top of the 'Last

Judgment,' as is well known, has a double semi-circular shape, which Michael Angelo gave it by removing two of his semi-circular subjects of the ceiling and allotting the space to his great fresco, thus avoiding a straight line at the line of the junction of the 'Last Judgment' with the frescoes of the ceiling. The upper portion of his picture of the 'Last Judgment' Michael Angelo has filled by a magnificent representation of groups of the officiating Angels, real Angels as they are described and made known to us by the Scriptures—having the form of MAN, who 'is an image and glory of God'—and not a portrayal of fanciful fictitious beings, 'fabulous animals,' such as we have presented to us in the work of so many other artists, either through their ignorance of the truth or through their total disregard of it. Michael Angelo here shows his loyal adhesion to the spiritual truth and his perception of the grandeur of it; he did not degrade a sublime subject by the introduction into his work of grotesque and fictitious imagery to represent the spiritual 'Messengers of God.' It is a matter for amazement to myself that artists, when dealing by their art with a high and sacred subject in the region of spiritual truth, should manifest such a lack of reverence as is shown by their persistently depicting baseless and worthless fancies and intruding these in the place of the great historical and unchanging reality."

THE *Liverpool Daily Post* is bringing out photogravures of 'A Hundred of the Greatest Pictures in the World' in fortnightly parts, portfolios included. It would be interesting to know what our contemporary considers the greatest pictures in the world. The modern method of decision is usually a plebiscite, which yields strange results in matters literary and artistic.

It is intended to limit the number of pictures in the forthcoming Salon to 1,500. This, despite the great improvements offered for hanging such works at the new Grand Palais in the Champs Elysées in comparison with the destroyed building, is not good news for those who found the 1,379 paintings in the Salon of 1900 more than they cared to see, or were able mentally to digest. There are to be about 500 drawings, all kinds included, in addition to the 1,500 pictures proper.

In a few days the large portion of the long-empty Pavillon Marsan (which is the complement to the Pavillon de Flore of the Louvre) which is appropriated to the wealthy and finely arranged Musée des Arts Décoratifs will be opened to the public. It contains a considerable treasure of furniture, decorations, and artistic vessels.

BOTH the Musée Carnavalet and the Print-Room of the Bibliothèque Nationale have just received welcome gifts—the former a portrait of Méhul by Baron Gros, the gift of M. Chassériau; a bronze bust of Danton from M. E. André; and a water-colour drawing of the Marché des Innocents, about 1830, by Bazin. Its other recent acquisitions include a portrait of Balzac by Louis Boulanger. To the Bibliothèque Nationale M. Charles Meissonier has given six original copperplates on which his father engraved various subjects, such as a Hercules, a Venetian senator, Napoleon, &c.

A LETTER from Spain in the Munich *Allgemeine Zeitung* states that the present Spanish Government has resolved to follow the example of Italy, Greece, and Egypt, and to prohibit for the future the export of any Spanish antiquities or works of art. The prohibition extends to "books, documents, manuscripts, coins, medals, armour, inscriptions, &c." The Government further claims for itself "the right to acquire antiquities in the possession of private persons."

THE excavations which have been carried on from time to time at Aboba, or Ababa, in North-Eastern Bulgaria, under the direction of the Russian Archaeological Institute in Constantinople, have lately resulted in two important discoveries. First, the ruins at Aboba are found to be far more extensive than was originally supposed, and the Russian archaeologist Prof. Uspenski has no doubt that they are the remains of a city which was the seat

of the first Bulgarian rulers and was probably destroyed in the ninth century. The second discovery is of special importance for the history of Slavonic philology. Prof. Uspenski has found inscriptions upon stone amongst the Aboba ruins in the "Kyrillisch-Schrift." He takes this as certain evidence that the "Kyrillika" must have been familiar to the Danubian Bulgarians two hundred years before the coming of the apostles Cyril and Methodius.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Popular Concerts.
QUEEN'S HALL.—Madame Lehmann's 'Daisy Chain.'

THE programme of last Saturday's Popular Concert included a new Quartet in E minor, Op. 112, by M. Saint-Saëns. M. Ysaye will probably introduce other novelties, and thus provide a welcome change from the hackneyed pieces which for a long time have been the rule. Yet surely when a novelty is presented there ought also to be some standard work. On Saturday the other concerted piece was M. Fauré's Piano-forte Quartet in G minor, of which we willingly admit the cleverness and at times attractiveness, yet after Saint-Saëns something more substantial would have been desirable. Only let the classical and the modern—for M. Fauré's quartet, though not a novelty, is modern—be wisely intermixed, and every one will be satisfied. Had the novelty on Saturday been one of deep interest, the want of some great masterpiece might not, perhaps, have been so keenly felt; still it is well to be on the safe side.

M. Saint-Saëns's good qualities as composer are known. Like Haydn, he is master of his art, and can at a moment's notice take up a pen and produce sound and skilful music; if inspiration fails, he can fall back upon harmony and counterpoint, and deck out to excellent advantage themes not remarkable for individuality or only shining with borrowed light. In the first, and especially in the last movement of his quartet, prominence is given to the first violin. The work is dedicated to M. Ysaye, so that the composer was naturally tempted to provide him with showy passages—and this, judged by a high standard, must be accounted a weakness. The second movement, really a Scherzo, though not so named, is bright and sparkling; the prevailing syncopation in the main section is peculiar yet pleasing. The Adagio is expressive, one passage with a persistent inner pedal note proving of strange though striking effect. For his solo M. Ysaye played a portion of Vieuxtemps's 'Fantasia Appassionata' in G, Op. 35, and for an encore Beethoven's Romance in G. It would have been better had the order of the pieces been reversed; best not to have played the fantasia at all. Though magnificently performed, it is principally a show piece. We can well understand why it is a favourite with M. Ysaye—he introduced it at a Popular Concert last year; there are, however, many neglected pieces far more worthy of a hearing. As with all great artists, so with M. Ysaye: virtuosity forms, and naturally, a part of his gifts, but it must not degenerate into empty show. The violinist has taken strong hold of the public, and by his match-

less tone and brilliant technique will continue to do so. He can therefore afford to set a noble example, and, like Dr. Joachim, his predecessor at these concerts, always keep within the safe line which divides serious from superficial art. M. Schönberger chose for his pianoforte solo Schubert's *Grand Fantasia* in c, Op. 15, which he wisely played without any of the meretricious ornamentation added, if we mistake not, by Liszt. The *Adagio* was expressively rendered, but as regards the rest of the music the pianist was not at his best. Madame Lillian Blauvelt made her first appearance since her return from America. Her voice is still fresh and bright, and her vocalization as perfect as ever. She sang Schubert's 'Der Hirt auf dem Felsen,' in which the clarinet *obbligato* was admirably played by Mr. Clinton. Her rendering later on of the *Bolero* from Verdi's 'I Vespri Siciliani' was delightful, though scarcely the right sort of song for such a platform.

Madame Liza Lehmann's new song cycle, 'The Daisy Chain,' was produced on Sunday evening at the concert of the National Sunday League at Queen's Hall. In the composer's 'Persian Garden' cycle there were pessimism, pathos, picturesqueness; in the new work, with the exception of the last-named quality, there is hardly anything which will admit of comparison. Here fancy, frolic, and dainty humour have principal play; and the very ease and lightness of the various settings make one forget the thought and skill which went towards the making of the music. But while the work as a whole claims high praise, it is not all of equal excellence. The first of these 'Twelve Songs of Childhood' is for quartet of solo voices, the poem 'Foreign Children' being taken from Robert Louis Stevenson's evergreen 'A Child's Garden of Verses.' This and the last number, 'Blind Man's Buff,' the words anonymous, also set for four voices, are particularly taking: the first is crisp and quaint, the second a realistic musical picture in which the music imitates to the life the movement and fun caused by the game described in the poem. In the intermediate songs there are many delightful touches, by which music at times of fairly ordinary character is saved. The cycle ought really to end with the quartet 'Thank you very much indeed,' the words of which are from Norman Gale's 'Songs for Little People.' The reference in the closing lines to the "blest Father, high above," turns thought heavenwards; the closing 'Blind Man's Buff,' clever in itself, offers, therefore, a change of mood which, if considered merely from an artistic point of view, seems ill placed. The performance was excellent. The interpreters were Madame Alice Esty, Miss Marian McKenzie, and Messrs. Joseph O'Mara and Denham Price. The pianoforte accompaniments were charmingly played by the composer.

Musical Gossip.

THE eighty-ninth season of the Philharmonic Society will commence at Queen's Hall on Wednesday, February 27th. The second and third concerts will take place on Wednesdays, March 13th and 27th, but the four remaining concerts on Thursdays, May 9th and 23rd, and June 6th and 20th. The novelties announced are a concert overture, 'Cockayne,' by Dr. Edward Elgar, a Symphonic Poem by

Mr. William Wallace, and a Concerto in E minor by Herr Emil Sauer, who will himself play the pianoforte part. Dr. Frederic Cowen's Symphony in E, No. 6 ('The Idyllic'), originally produced at a Richter Concert on May 31st, 1897, will be performed for the first time at these concerts. The following names have been announced. Vocalists: Marie Bremer, Ada Crossley, Ben Davies, Plunket Greene, Lydia Nervil, Emma Nevada, and Charles Santley. Pianists: Busoni, Carreño, Sapellnikoff, and Sauer. Violinists: Kubelik, Ondricek, and Maud Powell. Dr. F. Cowen will, as usual, be the conductor.

LAST Thursday was the day announced for the production of Signor Mascagni's new opera 'Le Maschere' simultaneously at six, or even, according to *Le Ménestrel*, nine Italian theatres. The composer has decided to be present at the performance in the Costanzi Theatre at Rome. This opera is to be followed there by Signor Mascheroni's new work 'Lorenza,' to a libretto by Signor Luigi Illica, and it will be produced under the composer's direction.

THE *Allgemeine Musik-Zeitung* of the 4th of January speaks in high terms of a choral ballad, 'Der Schneider in der Hölle,' by Herr Arnold Mendelssohn, recently performed at Königsberg. A strong wish was expressed for a repetition of the work.

NOTICE has been given by the Berlin committee to sculptors intending to compete for the Richard Wagner monument that their designs must be sent in by June 1st. The ten best will then engage in closer competition, and each of them will receive 1,500 marks by way of compensation. In addition, the three highest candidates will receive respectively prizes of 2,500, 1,800, and 1,000 marks. The jury will consist of twenty members.

THE *Musikalisches Wochenblatt* of January 10th announces that an international musical congress will be held in April at Algiers.

HERR HEINRICH ZOELLNER's music drama 'Der versunkene Glocke,' produced simultaneously at Cologne and Magdeburg on New Year's Day, achieved marked success. The composer was present at the performance in the latter city, and received a brilliant ovation. The work has already been accepted by eighteen important theatres. The composer, a son of Carl Friedrich Zoellner, the well-known cultivator of male choral singing, has already produced several operas, among them 'Frithjof' and 'Faust,' at Cologne.

Le Ménestrel of January 13th gives a fairly long obituary notice of the late Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar, the patron and friend of so many musicians, among whom Liszt was chief. Berlioz, by the way, in a letter to his friend Humbert Ferrand, written from Weimar in 1863, concerning the performance there of his 'Béatrice,' refers to the grand duke as an "incomparable Mæcenas." It is a curious fact that the duke, who witnessed the production of 'Lohengrin' at Weimar under Liszt in 1850, while Wagner was in exile at Zurich, was a cousin of the King of Saxony, by whom the composer was banished.

HERR SIEGMUND VON HAUSEGGER, son of Friedrich von Hausegger, the late Professor of Musical History and Aesthetics at the University of Graz, recently appeared at one of the concerts of the Wagner Society at Berlin as composer. His symphonic poem 'Barbara rossa,' which he himself conducted, seems to have created a highly favourable impression. Herr Hausegger is one of the conductors of the 'Kaim' Concerts at Munich, the founder of which, by the way, has just died at the age of seventy-eight.

THE Königliche Akademie der Künste of Berlin has announced the conditions for the competition for the Meyerbeer Stipendium

in 1902. It is open to Germans under the age of twenty-eight who have studied at one of the branches of the Königliche Akademie or at the Cologne Conservatorium, and who can produce good testimonials from their teachers. Notice of intention to compete must be sent in by February 1st, 1901. The exercises for the prize will consist of a vocal double fugue in eight parts, the theme of which will be given by the jury; an orchestral overture; also a dramatic cantata, the text of which will be supplied to candidates, for three voices with orchestral accompaniment, and with a fitting instrumental prelude.

Le Ménestrel quotes a portion of an interesting letter addressed by Wagner to the Schott firm at Mayence concerning some corrections in the 'Götterdämmerung' score which was being published. The letter was written at Rome, November 23rd, 1876, and in it the master strongly recommends them to publish two Pianoforte Quintets by Signor Sgambati, a composer of "true and original talent." Wagner's advice was taken, and the Schott firm have since published many, if not all, of Sgambati's compositions. The Quintets referred to bear the *opus* numbers 4 and 5. The latter was performed once, eleven years ago, at the Popular Concerts, but we do not think the earlier one has been produced. The favourable opinion of so critical a judge as Wagner might induce Mr. Chappell to revive the one and introduce the other.

FROM Italy comes the news that Signor Puccini, composer of 'La Bohème' and 'Tosca,' is at work on a new opera, the libretto of which is based on M. Edmond Rostand's 'Cyrano de Bergerac'; also that the opera will be produced at Naples during the season 1901-2. Italian news has, however, as we know by experience, to be received cautiously.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

SUN. Sunday Society Concert, 3.30: Sunday League, 7, Queen's Hall.
THURS. Miss Evelyn Stuart's Pianoforte Recital, 3, St. James's Hall.
— Mr. H. Waldo Warner's Concert, 8, Falcie Road.
FRI. Royal Choral Society, 8, Albert Hall.
— Messrs. Plunket Greene and L. Borwick's Recital, 3, St. James's Hall.
SAT. Burns Concert, 7.30, Queen's Hall.
— Saturday Popular Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.
— Symphony Concert, 3, Queen's Hall.

DRAMA

AN AUTOGRAPH PLAY OF PHILIP MASSINGER.

MASSINGER's 'Believe as You List' has had a curious history. According to the note-book of Sir Henry Herbert, Master of the Revels, it was licensed on May 7th, 1631, and it was entered in the Stationers' Register for publication in 1653. No such edition, however, exists, and the play has in fact come down to us in a single MS., which claims more attention than it has hitherto received. As late as 1844 it was casually found by Samuel Beltz among "a vast mass of rubbish" which had accumulated in his family and was on the point of being destroyed. How the MS. came there he was unable to say, but as his brother George Beltz, Lancaster Herald, who died in 1841, had been executor to David Garrick's widow, it was perhaps at one time in Garrick's collection. That it was also known to Colley Cibber is evident from a brief notice of it in his 'Apology' (ed. 1756, ii. p. 203); and there is even a chance of its being the same MS. which belonged to John Warburton, and was included by him in the list of his early plays destroyed by an ignorant cook; if so, the woman fortunately stayed her hand when she had torn out the single leaf now missing.

The play thus unexpectedly brought to light was edited for the Percy Society by T. Crofton Croker in 1849, but in a strangely careless and unintelligent way; and in 1870 it was re-edited from Croker's text, with the more obvious misreadings corrected, by Col. Cunningham, when he added 'Believe as You List' to the other

plays of Massinger before edited by Gifford. Although Cunningham could not trace the MS., it reappeared the same year at the sale (July 9th, 1870) of the library of the Rev. T. Corser, who had it from J. O. Halliwell in 1857. It sold for 17*l.*, after which nothing more was heard of it until it was again catalogued for sale by Messrs. Sotheby on November 27th last. As it was bought on this occasion for the British Museum, its wanderings are now at an end, and any future editor of Massinger will have no excuse for neglecting it. The amount paid for it (69*l.*) affords an instructive example of the rise in prices during the last thirty years, but no doubt it would have been still more if the real character of the MS. had been generally known. Until recently no one seems to have thought of ascertaining whether the MS. was in Massinger's own hand; on the contrary, from its first discovery it was assumed to be a play-house copy, with the title and some stage directions possibly added by the author. This assumption was the more strange, as there is a *prima facie* probability of its being autograph in the fact that it is the actual MS. submitted to Sir H. Herbert, having his signed licence at the end, dated May 6th (not May 7th, as in his note-book), 1631; moreover, if Croker and others had read the text with any care, they must have remarked, not only its singular freedom from the ordinary copyist's errors, but the occurrence of passages altered *currente calamo* in a way that unmistakably suggests the hand of the author. But evidence more conclusive than this could easily have been obtained. Among the valuable dramatic papers of Philip Henslowe and Edward Alleyn preserved at Dulwich College there is an undoubtedly genuine specimen of Massinger's handwriting in a letter to Henslowe, which was printed by J. P. Collier and must have been known to Halliwell, if not to Croker. By the courtesy of Mr. Gilkes, Master of Dulwich College, and Messrs. Sotheby, I was able before the sale to place the two MSS. side by side, and a careful comparison leaves no doubt that the entire play is in Massinger's autograph. As for the title and stage directions, they were no doubt written by the manager or some other when the play was performed; while the prologue and epilogue, which stand together at the end, after the licence, are in a third hand, and Massinger perhaps had nothing to do with them.

As an autograph play by an early English dramatist of almost the first rank, 'Believe as You List' is, so far as I know, unique, Ben Jonson's two autograph masques, now in the British Museum, being works of a different kind. But, apart from its special value on this account, the MS. also reveals an interesting fact in the history of the play, which Croker overlooked or ignored. The plot, as we have it, deals with the misfortunes and stoicism of Antiochus, King of Lower Asia, who, twenty-two years after he was reported to have been slain in battle against the Romans, suddenly appears at Carthage seeking aid to regain his kingdom, and is ruthlessly persecuted as an impostor by the Roman legate Flaminius. From the nature of this plot Cunningham conjectured that 'Believe as You List,' licensed in May, 1631, was a revised form of an unnamed play by Massinger rejected by Sir H. Herbert on January 11th,

"because it did contain dangerous matter, as the deposing of Sebastian, King of Portugal, by Philip II., and there being a peace sworn 'twixt the kings of England and Spain."

This is fully confirmed by the MS. in several places, where the author at first inadvertently wrote the original names and then corrected them. Thus, when Flaminius asks the king's traitorous servant what danger he speaks of as menacing Rome, the answer, as first written, is (Croker, p. 23), "It appears In the shape of Dom Sebastian"; and similarly, when Antiochus proves his identity before the Carthaginian

Senate, Amilcar exclaims (p. 40), "It cannot bee but this is the trew Sebastian." Elsewhere, again, "Carthage" is written over "Venice" (p. 41), "Affricque" over "Europe" (p. 44), and "Berecinthus" (the truculent flamen of Cybele, who supplies the comic element) over "Sampayo" (p. 79). From these and other indications it is quite clear that the play was founded upon 'The Strangest Adventure that ever Happened,' a tract which was translated from the French by Anthony Munday and printed in 1601. It was originally written in Spanish by José Teixeira in support of a pretender who three years before appeared at Venice claiming to be Dom Sebastian of Portugal, falsely said to have fallen in battle in Africa in 1578; and Massinger not only obtained from it his plot and original characters, including the friar Stephen Sampayo, whose name is mentioned above, but minute particulars of his hero's person. When transferred to Antiochus, these, however, were somewhat modified, for the words "His arme, hand, legge, and foote on the left side Shorter then on the right" have been struck out, and "his German lippe," a proof of Sebastian's descent from Charles V., corrected into "his very lippe." To what extent the original play was altered in other respects it is impossible to say, as, except in a few such instances, the process of revision was completed before the author made his fair copy for the licenser. The wonder is that any revision was deemed necessary so late as 1631, when both Philip II. and the pseudo-Sebastian had long been dead and all political interest in the matter was at an end.

In conclusion, a few examples may be given to show how easily an early text may be corrupted, even when there are no intermediate stages between the author and a modern editor. Thus, in Croker's edition (p. 20), when Antiochus convinces the three Asiatic merchants of his identity, Berecinthus exclaims—

Soe many markes
Confirminge us, wee *faine* in our distrust
A sacrifice for his safetie.
1 *Merch.* May Rome *smile*.
2 *Merch.* And Asia once more flourishes.

Cunningham (who never saw the MS.) for "wee faine in" reads (p. 600) "we'll pay for," but he retains the equally faulty "smile." The MS., however, has

wee *sinne* in our distrust.
A sacrifice for his safetie!
1 *Merch.* May Rome *sinkle*!

The first of the above misreadings is a case of the common confusion between *f* and long *s*, just as in "frown" twice read for "scorn" (pp. 16, 84), and in "feele justice" for "seeke justice" (p. 41). Elsewhere the same letter *f* has been wrongly read for long *h*, descending below the line, as where the merchant, speaking of the too bulky flamen, says (p. 48):—

As hee rode downe a hill I did expect
The chuintage of his *fork*.

Cunningham here, with the MS., reads "horse," but "fork" has found its way into Dr. Murray's 'New English Dictionary,' thus falsifying the sense of "chininge," the true meaning of the line being "the breaking of his horse's back." But there is a worse example of the same kind, amounting to a libel on the author. After a rude outburst from the flamen in the Carthaginian Senate, Amilcar says in rebuke:—

Thancke you goddess. Shee
Defendes you from a whippinge.

Instead of "Thancke," which is plain enough, Croker (p. 37) reads "I [kisse]," which is evidently a euphemism for a word too coarse to print, and utterly out of place in the grave Amilcar's mouth. Among other misreadings I need only add that "Thank [Think, Cunningham], and alowd too" should be "Chant" (p. 12); "I vow hee speaks" should be "I (sc. Aye), now he speaks" (p. 16); "beloheth [belloweth, Cunn.] forth" should be "belcheth forth" (p. 17); "sounds" should be "sonnes" (p. 26); and "the bolde knave's winges" (of

Time) should be "balde knave's" (p. 80). The moral of all this is that editors and commentators of seventeenth-century plays would do well to familiarize themselves with the handwriting of the period, as typically displayed in this MS. of Massinger. But what would we not give if the corruptions of any play of Shakspeare could be as easily removed by reference to his own autograph?
G. F. W.

AN UNKNOWN EARLY ALLUSION TO SHAKSPEARE.

ONE of the chances of the auction-room has just put me in possession of an old manuscript volume of very singular and exceptional interest. The greater portion of its contents seems to have been written between 1679 and 1685; but it is evident that the book passed through several hands, and some of the writing in it dates as late as 1710 or thereabouts. One of the most interesting points about the volume is that it reveals to us a hitherto unknown poet—not one of the first rank certainly, but still one who is not without merit. About him, and about other matters of interest which are contained in the volume, I hope to be allowed to discourse to the readers of the *Athenæum* on a future occasion: at present I design only to draw attention to one passage in it which is of interest in relation to Shakspeare. This occurs on the leaf of the book which is numbered 72, and is as follows:—

'In 1673 I Robert Dobyns being at Stratford upon Avon & visiting the church there transcribed these two Epitaphs, the first is on William Shakspeare's monument: the other is upon ye monument of a noted usurer.

1. Good friend for Jeau sake forbeare
To dig the Dust that lyeth inclosed here
Blessed is the man that spareth these stones
Cursed be he yt moveth these bones.
2. Tenn in the hundred here lyeth engraved
A hundred to tenn his soule is now saved
If anny one aske who lyeth in this Tombe
Oh ho quoth the Diveli tis my John a Combe.

Since my being at Stratford the heires of Mr. Combe have caused these verses to be razed, so yt now they are not legible. In that church lyeth a yonge Lady, her Monument and the towne tell plainly she dyed for love, and that when her parents found her sickness reall, as it was unequal, they would have consented, but it was to late."

I have copied the above as faithfully as possible, and I think without deviation from the original; but the latter part of it is not very legible, inasmuch as the writer was cramped for room. I suppose what he meant to say in the last paragraph was that the parents of the young lady were willing at last to consent to their daughter's marriage, in spite of its being an unequal match for her.

It will be observed that both the Shakspeare and Combe epitaphs, as given by Mr. Dobyns, differ considerably from the usually accepted versions. Whether we can altogether rely upon the copyist's entire faithfulness to the originals I will not attempt to decide; but there could hardly have been any reason why he should wilfully alter them, though he may possibly have been a little careless in transcribing them.

Concerning the Combe epitaph, it is, I think, a new point that it was actually put upon the usurer's monument. It might well seem incredible that such an inscription could ever have been placed on the tombstone of any man, however much he might have been detested in his lifetime; but here we have positive evidence that it was so inscribed upon the monument of John a Combe. There seems to be no reason why Robert Dobyns should have asserted that he had copied the inscription from the monument if he had not actually seen it there. As to Shakspeare's authorship of the epitaph, the question is left pretty much where it was before, though we may infer (rather than conclude) that Dobyns was of opinion that the great dramatist was the author of it. It is impossible, however, to suppose that Shakspeare could have been a party to the outrage of putting the epitaph upon Combe's monument.

In the second line of the Combe epitaph the word *now* should evidently be *not*; but it is clearly *now* in the manuscript.

BERTRAM DOBELL.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have communicated the substance of it to Mr. Sidney Lee, who kindly informs me that the lines on Combe first appeared in 1618, in Richard Brathwaite's 'Remains.' In that publication their form is as follows:—

"Upon one John Combe of Stratford upon Avon, a notable usurer, fastened upon a Tombe that he had caused to be built in his Life-Time.

Ten in the hundred must lie in his grave,
But a hundred to ten whether God will him have,
Who then must be interr'd in this tombe?
Oh (quoth the devil) my John a Combe."

It will be observed that Brathwaite says that the epitaph was "fastened" (not engraved) upon Combe's monument, conveying thus the impression that it was loosely affixed to it by some one who had suffered from his usurious practices. Robert Dobyns, I believe, is the only witness who states categorically that he had himself seen the lines engraved upon the tomb.

Dramatic Gossip.

'THE MERCHANT OF VENICE,' given on Wednesday at the Comedy by the Benson Company, is an advance upon previous efforts. If there is no great measure of inspiration, there is nothing to which exception need be taken. Miss Eleanor Callum as Portia and Miss Lillian Braithwaite as Jessica were acceptable. Mr. Benson was an energetic and acrimonious Shylock; Mr. Oscar Asche, a good Prince of Morocco; and Mr. Alfred Brydone, a conventional Antonio. The young Venetian gentlemen, Bassanio and Gratiano, also found fairly gallant representatives.

'MY LORD ADAM,' a three-act comedy by Mrs. De Lacy Lacy (who, under the pseudonym of Ridsen Home, is responsible for 'Nelson's Enchantress,' given four years ago by Mr. Forbes Robertson at the Avenue), was produced at the Royalty Theatre on Tuesday afternoon. The action of this is laid in 1760, and its plot shows a foolish wife saved from the consequences of an elopement by discovering that her husband and not her lover has been the companion of her flight. Not without ingenuity is the story, but the treatment is inadequate and disfigured by anachronisms. The female parts were fairly played by Miss Clara Denman, Miss De Lacy Lacy, and Miss Gwendolen Logan. Messrs. Frank Dyall, W. Sauler, and J. W. Macdonald as men of fashion spoke well, but acted with no special distinction.

Mr. E. H. SOTHERN, who, though announced as an American, is the son of Edward Askew Sothorn, and at least of English descent, will appear in London shortly as Hamlet. He will also, it is thought, be seen in 'Richard Lovelace,' a drama unacted as yet, by Mr. Laurence Irving.

'A GREAT LADY,' a new play by Lady Troubridge and Mr. B. C. Stephenson, has been secured by Mrs. Langtry for the Imperial Theatre.

A MISCELLANEOUS entertainment was given on Tuesday afternoon at the Prince of Wales's Theatre for a benefit. Many well-known actors took part in it, but no novelty was produced.

OWING to the illness of Mr. Penley, the performances of 'Charley's Aunt' at the Great Queen Street Theatre were suspended during the early part of the week.

MR. CHARLES HAWTREY, who, through loss of voice, has been temporarily absent from the stage, has reappeared at the Avenue in 'A Message from Mars.' Others who have been or are disabled are Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Seymour Hicks.

At the close of the run of 'Peril,' which, as has been announced, will be the next piece at the Garrick, Mr. Arthur Bourelhier will produce the long-promised comedy by Mr. Pinero.

MR. F. S. WILLARD has begun as David Garrick a season at the Garden Theatre, New York.

'HEROD' will be withdrawn from Her Majesty's on the 26th inst., and will be replaced on the following Thursday by 'Twelfth Night,' with Mr. Tree as Malvolio and Mrs. Tree as Maria. Other members of the cast have already been named.

THE *Era* makes the startling statement that Halifax is able to produce stage plays on a Sunday. The power is, we suppose, unique. The lessees of the theatre are learning to their cost that the privilege does not extend to music and dancing.

'SHOCK-HEADED PETER' and 'The Man who Stole the Castle' were duly transferred to the evening bill at the Garrick on Monday. The original cast in both cases was unchanged.

'THE WISDOM OF THE WISE' was withdrawn on Saturday last from the St. James's, and the house has been closed during the present week and will remain so on the approaching Monday and Tuesday.

THIS evening witnesses the revival by Miss Julia Neilson at the Globe of 'Sweet Nell of Old Drury.'

MR. MARTIN HARVEY will, it is understood, open the Court Theatre early in the spring with the long-promised adaptation of Mr. Marion Crawford's 'Cigarette-Maker's Romance.'

ACCORDING to present arrangements, Mr. L. N. Parker's adaptation of 'L'Aiglon' will be given at the Duke of York's Theatre, when the run ceases of 'The Swashbuckler.' Miss Evelyn Millard will, it is anticipated, play the juvenile hero.

MR. WILLIAM GILLETTE has secured the Lyceum for September next, and will bring over his entire company. About the same time Sir Henry Irving and Miss Terry will begin at the Knickerbocker Theatre, New York, an American season to extend over twenty weeks. Their purpose opening with 'Coriolanus.'

MISS ADA REHAN has played in New York Nell Gwyn, Miss Julia Neilson's rôle in 'Sweet Nell of Old Drury.'

M. P. FEODOROV, whose death, in his sixty-first year, is announced from St. Petersburg, was one of the editors of the *Norov Vremya*, and the author of several once-popular comedies and farces.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. L. L.—W. B. L.—L. L. F.—S. T. B.—received.

J. B.—We have not received the book.

Mss. M.—No opening for such work.

G. E. V.—Interesting, but too late now.

J. M.—Not suitable for us.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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